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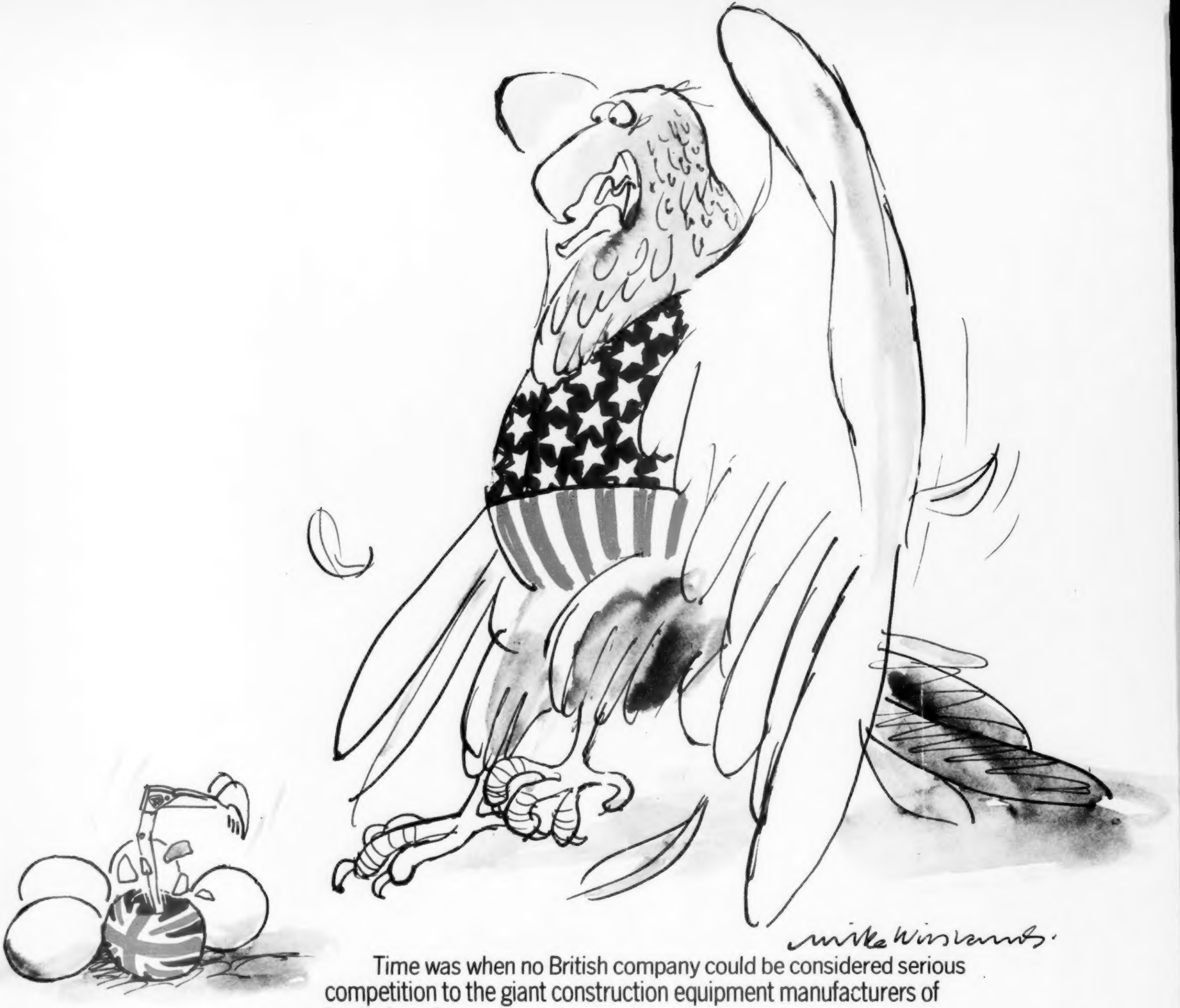
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Trade and Industry

1 July 1977

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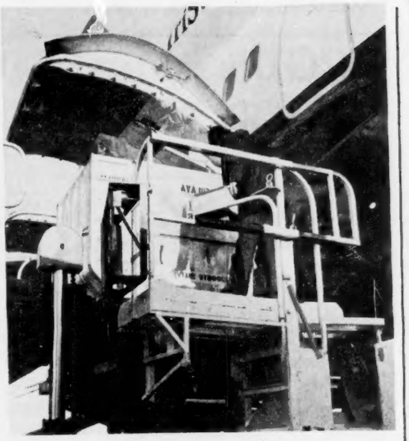

Air transport accounted for 15 per cent of the UK's combined export and import trade in 1976—a rise of 10 per cent since 1960. See page 696.

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Trade and Industry this week

EUROPE

Free market is no. one priority – Dell

In a statement on 30 June marking the end of customs duties on industrial goods traded between the nine European community members, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said that British manufacturers would have a home market of nearly 300 million people in 16 countries from 1 July.

It was virtually the end, he said, of the four-year transitional period since the UK joined the EEC in 1973 and, with the disappearance of customs duties on industrial goods traded between the EEC and all the Efta countries, the world's biggest tariff-free area had come finally into existence.

'Nearly half of our exports already go into this tariff-free area,' Mr Dell said. 'But we must continue to treat our new home market as our number one priority for a long time to come. It is the benchmark: if we can compete in Europe we can compete anywhere in the world.'

'But,' Mr Dell concluded, 'we are commemorating more than the creation of a new trading framework for the UK. Politically, too, it is a milestone. We have joined the community. We have confirmed our membership in a referendum. We accept all that this means in terms of our responsibilities as well as our opportunities. And we know that our future will be formed within the European community.'

An article on the end of the transitional period for industrial tariffs appears on page 672.

OVERSEAS

Six anti-dumping probe results

On Wednesday (29 June) the results of six anti-dumping investigations were announced by the Department of Trade. These are the last cases to be dealt with by the department as from 1 July the responsibility for dealing with complaints about dumping passes to the European commission.

Satisfactory price undertakings were secured in five cases and in one case, no dumping was found. At the same time the department announced the extension of a charge on Spanish special steels and the revocation of certain anti-dumping duties which are no longer appropriate.

The satisfactory price undertakings were obtained in the following cases: socket sets, sockets and accessories from Japan; hydraulic lifting equipment from Sweden; compressed air breathing apparatus from Sweden; lanolin derivatives from United States; and textile yarn-carrying cones of paperboard from Spain. In the case involving pvc leathercloth from Hungary and East Germany, no dumping was found.

The provisional charge to anti-dumping duty of £31.50 per tonne on light steel sections originating in Spain has been extended for a further three months. This extension will enable the department to complete its investigations into this complaint of dumping. The order came into effect on 30 June.

From 30 June the department is revoking anti-dumping duties on: zirconium dioxide from the USSR (duty currently in suspension): twist wrapping machines from the German Democratic Republic and the USSR zone and sector of Berlin (duty currently in suspension): pearled barley from the Federal Republic of Germany; and calcium ammonium nitrate from the Republic of South Africa. Six anti-dumping duties remain in effect until reviewed in due course by the European commission.

On 1 July responsibility for dealing with complaints about dumping into the UK, except for certain cases involving iron and steel products, passes to the European commission, in accordance with the terms of the UK's accession to the treaty of Rome.

The department has two outstanding cases that have been accepted for full investigation and that remain to be completed. These concern special steels from Austria and Sweden. Both investigations are well advanced. If action is found to be required, it will fall to the European commission to take the necessary measures.

ECGD's industrial strategy role

This week (29 June) saw the first of two seminars organised jointly by the National Economic Development Office (Nedo) and the Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD). The seminar was chaired by Bernard Asher, industrial director of Nedo.

The seminars are designed to give representatives of some of the industrial sector working parties (SWP) concerned with exporting an opportunity for a full exchange of views with senior ECGD representatives.

In the seminars the ECGD team and SWP representatives are exploring ways of ensuring that exporters derive full benefit from the department's range of credit insurance and finance facilities.

The second seminar, under the chairmanship of Mr J. Campbell Fraser, managing director of Dunlop Holdings and a member of the National Economic Development Council, will be held next Wednesday, 6 July.

For the seminars, ECGD has prepared three background papers on export credit insurance, bank finance and special facilities. Copies are obtainable from Nedo, Millbank Tower, Millbank SW1P 4QX, or from ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL.

British-Mexican co-operation talks

Delegates at the first plenary session of the British-Mexican joint commission on economic and industrial co-operation which opened this week (27 June). Leading the UK delegation is Jim Steel, deputy secretary, Department of Trade, and the Mexican delegation is led by Juan de Olloqui. The joint commission concludes today (1 July) with the signing of a formal minute.

HOME

British Shipbuilders' vesting day

Today (1 July) is vesting day of British Shipbuilders, with the greater part of the industry becoming state-owned.

British Shipbuilders will operate as a holding company, while companies taken over will continue to operate as individual profit centres responsible, within broad guidelines, for the conduct of their own affairs.

NE and NW investment

Published on Monday, the National Enterprise Board's report on investment potential in the north-east and north-west of England proposes action by the board itself and by the Department of Industry and other government departments on Wearside and in the north-east and north-west generally.

In answer to a parliamentary question the Secretary of State for Industry, Eric Varley, went on to say that the board intended to pursue vigorously the intensified regional activities in the report. It was, he said, considering setting up a contracting company to undertake certain activities on behalf of small metal-working companies in the north-east and the possibility of similar action in other industrial sectors in both the north and north-west regions.

Mr Varley explained that the government had accepted the recommendation that there should be a widening of the differential in regional selective financial assistance in favour of special development areas. This change would apply to all such areas in the UK.

In those areas we intend to increase from two to three the number of possible interest-free years for government loans and interest relief grants for suitable viable employment generating projects. We shall also increase the rent-free periods for government factories in appropriate cases.'

On 3 March this year the NEB was asked by the Prime Minister to investigate the investment potential in the north-east and north-west in the light of the general problem of unemployment and the Plessey closures in those areas.

Gas explosions report

No single cause was responsible for the severe gas explosions that occurred at Beckenham, Bradford, Brentford, Bristol and elsewhere in December last year and in January this year, says the report of the inquiry into serious gas explosions, published on 28 June.

The report also says that there is no evidence of an upward trend in the number of serious explosions that occur each year (on average 108), nor is there a discernible trend in the number of people killed each year as a result of gas explosions (on average about 11).

But there was, however, an increase in the amount of severe property damage caused by explosions last year (37) as compared with an average of 29 in the previous four years. The report says that the reason for this increase, which is just within the bounds of chance, has not been established. There is no evidence that the changeover from town gas to natural gas has resulted in any increase in the number or severity of explosions.

The report says that the statistics show clearly that gas explosions are a minor cause of death, much smaller than many generally accepted risks and that, as far as can be judged, experience in this country compares favourably with that in other countries.

Two-thirds of all explosions, says the report, are caused by escapes of gas that occur within premises. Such explosions are attributed mainly to the misuse of appliances or deliberate interference with the gas supply.

A major cause of the remaining one-third of all explosions is the escape of gas from fractured cast-iron mains.

Eighty per cent of the distribution system consists of grey cast-iron mains though these are no longer being laid. The inquiry team says that there is not a case for the rapid replacement of the whole of the cast-iron system – at a cost of some £4,000 million – but it recommends that the part of the system most at risk should be replaced by 1984. The estimated cost of this is £400 million.

The report makes 21 recommendations, including the need for publicity on a number of issues, an acceleration of the replacement of mains and services, and improved conections for new cookers.

Night jet restrictions

Restrictions to be applied to night jet movements at Heathrow and Gatwick from 1 November 1977 to 31 March 1978 were announced by Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, on Monday.

In answer to a written parliamentary question Mr Clinton Davis said he had decided that the number of night jet movements permitted in the coming winter should be 2000 at Heathrow and 1400 at Gatwick. This represented a cut of 200 in the quotas at both airports last winter. The hours of restriction would be unchanged. This decision continued the progressive reductions in the permitted level of night-time disturbance and was compatible with both long-term strategies proposed in the consultation document 'Night Disturbance from Aircraft Noise at Heathrow and Gatwick' (*Trade and Industry*, 18 March 1977, page 682).

At both airports the restrictions will apply from 23.30 hours to 06.30 hours on Mondays to Saturdays and from 23.30 hours to 08.00 hours on Sundays.

Transport white paper published

Presenting the government's white paper on transport policy to the House of Commons on 27 June, Secretary of State for Transport, William Rodgers, summed up the main themes as priority for maintaining public transport with particular help to rural areas and more responsibilities for local authorities. Support for local bus services could not be reduced as planned, and there would be a boost to concessionary fares for the elderly.

There would be no major rail cuts, but the white paper puts forward for discussion proposals on bringing local people into decision-making on local rail services. Mr Rodgers also announced a new approach to the road programme, with emphasis on specific schemes rather than comprehensive improvement of the strategic network.

The secretary of state said that the maintenance of public services was the white paper's main concern. Expenditure in support of public transport would not be reduced, as had been proposed in the consultation document and in this year's public expenditure white paper.

Plugs and sockets: international standard

Formal comments on behalf of government departments on proposals for a voluntary international standard for a new and unique system of plugs and sockets have now been made to the British Standards Institution.

Proposals circulated for comment by BSI last January would, if adopted under international procedures, form the basis for the new voluntary standard. The UK will not be obliged to introduce the new system – publication cannot take place before 1978, at least – but if adopted the standard would bring advantages to industry by removing technical barriers to trade.

If a standard were published the government would consult widely among consumer organisations, trade and industry, before deciding whether or not to introduce the system and any government proposals would be published and open to parliamentary debate.

Government departments concerned have carefully considered the implications and are satisfied that if the proposed new system were introduced in the UK existing safety levels could be maintained. Costs could also be kept low, since no change would be required to existing serviceable installations and consumers could readily use appliances fitted with a new-type plug. They would be faced, however, for a considerable time with the inconvenience of an additional variety of plug.

The present proposals, although fundamental, do not specify a complete system and until full details of this are available the government cannot endorse their formal acceptance.

Home news

Air services agreement: new opportunities for both sides – Dell

Agreement reached on 22 June on a new UK/US air services agreement (the Bermuda agreement) will provide significant new opportunities for the airlines of both sides and promises real benefits to the consumer, said Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell on 23 June. In a statement to the House of Commons he pointed out that it would give British airlines a fairer opportunity to fight for a bigger share of a growing market.

Final texts still had to be completed before the new agreement could be formally signed and come into effect, he explained. This would probably be at the end of July. The agreement would then be laid before parliament as a command paper. Meanwhile services would continue as at present.

The most important and novel feature of the new agreement, he said, was the mechanism to control capacity on north Atlantic routes. This was designed to reduce the waste of fuel and other resources that resulted from flying too many empty seats, while preserving competition and benefiting the travelling public. This had from the outset been one of the UK's most important objectives.

'Moreover,' he went on, 'our airlines will be able to open up new routes to the United States. The new points are Houston, Atlanta, Seattle and Dallas/Fort Worth, and a non-stop route to San Francisco. These routes will enable us to increase our penetration of the north Atlantic market. We have also got a better route across the Pacific for future passenger and cargo services from Hong Kong to the west Coast of the United States.'

The UK had also secured agreement to single designation by both sides on all the north Atlantic routes, except two. This meant that with these exceptions the British carrier would face competition from only one American airline. The Americans would be putting two airlines on New York and Los Angeles. 'My intention,' said Mr Dell, 'is to designate Laker as our second carrier to New York. We will retain the option to designate a second carrier on some other route. I intend to keep this open.'

He pointed out that the UK had obtained substantial reductions in the rights of United States airlines to carry fifth freedom traffic beyond London and Hong Kong to other destinations, although some important fifth freedom rights would continue. A number of these rights would disappear immediately, others after three and five years.

There would also be greater flexibility for the airlines, British as well as the American, to carry passengers on the same aircraft to more than one destination, but without the right to pick up passengers from one destination point and take them to another. This was a new concept which should contribute to more economic use of resources. But Britain had given notice to the United States authorities that, if it turned out to the UK's disadvantage, this country would want to review it.

A new tariffs article had been agreed which removed the ambiguities of the old tariffs article and should avoid the disputes that had occurred in the past.'

Mr Dell said it had also been agreed that, in accordance with his airports policy statement on 5 April, the new routes to Houston and Atlanta would from the start come into Gatwick. This would also apply to the Dallas route provided the British carrier used Gatwick.

New routes had also been agreed linking Bermuda and British dependencies in the Caribbean to the United States.

'Finally, the Americans have agreed to work with us towards a new multilateral arrangement on charter services between north America and Europe. We already have a bilateral arrangement with the United States which is working well. This will now become part of the new air services agreement. The development of charter services, which both sides desire to foster, will offer further benefits to the travelling public.'

Anti-waste campaign gets under way

Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, at the launch of the national anti-waste programme on 22 June (see *Trade and Industry*, 24 June). With him are Ken Marks, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of the Environment and joint chairman with Mr Cryer of the waste management advisory council, and Dr Robert Berry, director of the programme.

National
Anti-Waste
Programme
KEN MARKS
BOB CRYER
DR

Industrial strategy programme approaches critical point

Prime Minister James Callaghan emphasised the importance that the government attaches to the industrial strategy programme at a tripartite conference held under his chairmanship at Lancaster House on 22 June.

This meeting, the first of two – the second will be held on 11 July – was attended by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, senior government ministers from the Departments of Trade, Industry and Employment, representatives of the CBI and TUC, and management and trade union representatives of 29 sector working parties.

In his opening statement at the tripartite conference the Prime Minister said that since the industrial strategy programme had been launched at the Chequers meeting in November 1975 the government had sought to become more industry-oriented in its discussions. The Prime Minister said that

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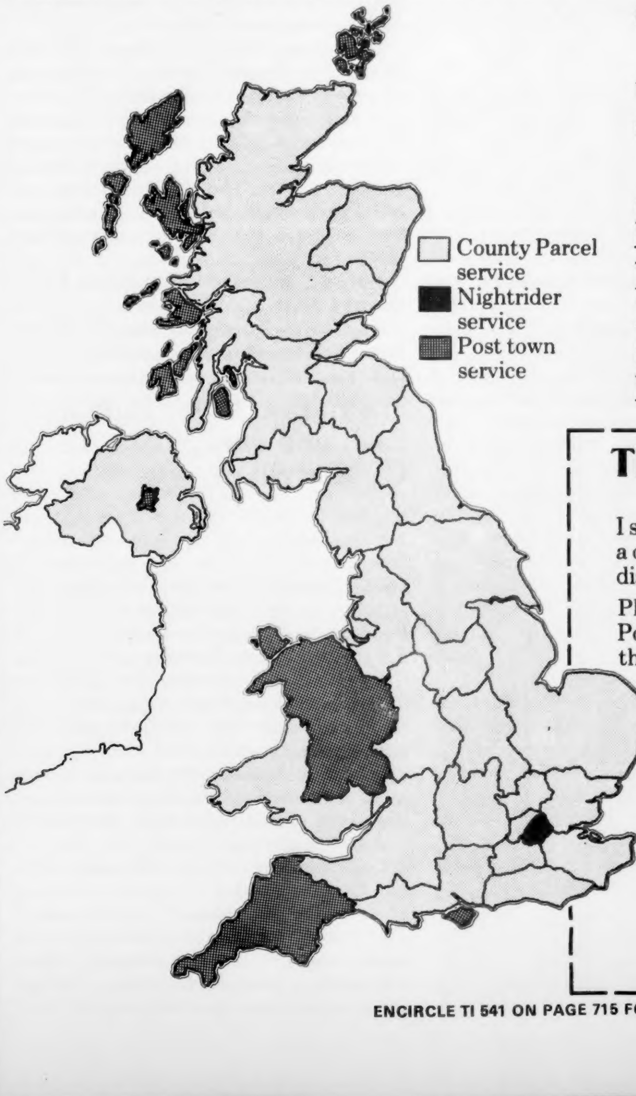

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TI3

ENCIRCLE TI 541 ON PAGE 715 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION the government's first priority was to get inflation down and that it must stick to this aim: in this, the government, management and unions must combine.

After the meeting, Sir Ronald McIntosh, Director General of the National Economic Development Office, said that there had been agreement in the meeting that the industrial strategy programme was approaching a critical point. Previous exercises had petered out and it was essential that this did not happen now. Action in a number of areas identified during the meeting would help.

From the meeting came a general feeling that, providing the best use was made of resources, a substantial increase in market shares, both in foreign and domestic markets, could be achieved.

Another important point which had arisen was the scope for the development of stronger contacts between makers and users: action along these lines could help reduce Britain's import bill This was especially true of engineering components suppliers, where UK industry was losing out to overseas manufacturers.

The conference also discussed the problems involved for companies, particularly small and medium-sized firms, which wished to enter new markets overseas.

Sir Ronald also pointed out that two reports which had been taken by the National Economic Development Council – by Sir Raymond Brown on the telecommunications industry and by Sir Frederick Warner on standards and specifications – deserved close attention.

The opportunities that North Sea oil would provide in the 1980s were stressed: the Prime Minister announced that he had commissioned a study of the effects of the revenue inflow from North Sea oil and presenting the options open to the government in coming years.

First shipbuilders' compensation agreed

Settlement of compensation totalling £1,857,000 for three classes of security which will vest in British Shipbuilders under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977 were announced by Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, on 24 June.

In written answer to a parliamentary question he explained that compensation had been settled for the following securities:

	Price per share	Total compensation
Robb Caledon Shipbuilders Ltd		
Ordinary shares	99.333p	£1,364,432
10 per cent cumulative redeemable preference shares	£1.00	£375,000
John G. Kincaid and Co Ltd		
4.2 per cent cumulative preference shares	33.5p	£117,594

Mr Kaufman said an order had been made under section 36(1) of the act specifying 1 July 1977 as the conversion date on or after which the compensation stock may be issued in respect of the above securities.

Compensation is satisfied by the issue of government stock. The Bank of England will be announcing shortly particulars of the stock and the date of issue.

Compensation for companies nationalised under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977 is related to Stock Exchange quotations in the six months ended 28 February 1974, but subject to adjustments in certain circumstances.

Two of these three securities are the only ones having a Stock Exchange listing; Robb Caledon's 10 per cent cumulative redeemable preference shares were issued after the reference period and therefore fall to be compensated at their issue price.

Securities other than these three are to be valued as though they had a Stock Exchange listing, and relevant adjustments then made to arrive at the compensation value.

Valuations are to be settled by negotiation, with recourse to arbitration in default of agreement, between the Department of Industry and a stockholders' representative appointed to act on behalf of the holders of the securities in individual companies. Preparation for these negotiations is in progress.

Government responds to software challenge

Government response to the challenge of an expanding market for computer software means that there is no indication that demand for software and services will slacken in the future, said Leslie Huckfield, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, on 23 June.

Speaking in London at a conference organised by BIS Applied Systems Ltd, Mr Huckfield went on to say that support for software development had been available for a number of years under the Science and Technology Act. Funds for development were available through two schemes: software and systems development contracts were used to encourage the development of advanced systems applications by ICL and other companies in association with users and potential users; the second scheme was the software products scheme which encouraged software development by British companies in order to improve their software engineering techniques, to expand home and overseas markets, and to make new products available to users. Money was made available on a 50/50 basis.

Through these schemes Mr Huckfield said the Department of Industry provided some £350,000 of financial support for the development of British software and advance systems applications in the last year.

The National Enterprise Board, he continued, had made substantial financial resources available to the manufacturing side of the industry through its 24 per cent holding in ICL, 50 per cent holding in Ferranti and 54 per cent holding in the Data Recording Instrument Co.

In addition the board had recently established a wholly-owned subsidiary, Insac Data Systems Ltd, with the initial aim of providing overseas marketing of British software. In key areas, such as north America, Insac would market the services and products of UK companies. However, long-term success would depend on Insac's funding market-led product development.

Mr Huckfield said that contracts for such development would be given to companies associated with the NEB. In general these companies would market the products in the UK while Insac would exploit their overseas potential. In particularly promising markets Insac would establish trading agreements with local companies or acquire interests in them, to improve market information and increase exports.

Financial support for Insac would come from NEB funds, he added. The plans approved by the board called for external funds of £20 million in the first five years and the NEB had agreed to make available an initial sum of £9 million to be drawn on when necessary.

Air travel organisers' profits down

With an overall net profit of £11.7 million the UK's 30 largest air tour operators were less profitable in 1976. The figure was £1.2 million down on the 1975 results.

An analysis by the Civil Aviation Authority of the 1976 financial results of its 30 largest air travel organisers' licence-holders shows that despite a more than 20 per cent increase in turnover to £326.1 million their overall net profits declined to £11.7 million, a return of 3.6 per cent on turnover. This is a decrease of 1.0 per cent on the 1975 results which had been a record year for both turnover and profit.

Although several of the 30 licence-holders incurred losses amounting to £1.1 million, this figure is well below the losses which were being experienced in the years prior to 1975.

Insulation saves industry cash and energy – Cunningham

'We cannot afford to run industry with built-in inefficiencies born of cheap and plentiful energy,' said John Cunningham, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, on 21 June. Opening the 'Insulation '77' exhibition at Wembley, he added, 'we need to rethink plant and equipment investment requirements in the light of a very different energy scene.'

Insulation, he said, was a quick, simple, effective method of cutting down energy waste and offered tremendous potential for both cash and energy saving.

Fuel prices were now a much more significant factor for industry – even in the company where energy had previously been a nominal cost. 'Energy inefficiency is costing a lot of money, and it is a luxury we cannot afford, as domestic or industrial consumers. The firm which wastes energy operates at a commercial disadvantage, burdens itself with extra costs and blunts its competitive edge, not only at home but in international markets too. As a major trading nation, we cannot afford that.'

Dr Cunningham said he believed that there was still tremendous scope for better insulation on strictly economic grounds throughout British industry and commerce – and in the domestic sector.

Quoting a 'Save-It' campaign industrial advertisement which illustrated the importance one company attached to roof and pipe insulation, he said that by lining a warehouse roof with 50 mm of insulation material, Reckitt and Colman were saving £5,000 a year – more if fuel costs rose – for an initial outlay of only £11,000. Another £7,000 worth of lagging on 3000 ft of pipework would save £6,500 a year.

One thousandth well drilled offshore

Dr Dickson Mabon, Minister of State for Energy, announced on 17 June the drilling of the one thousandth well on the UK continental shelf.

Noting that the level of drilling activity around the UK has recently been back at the average reached during the peak year 1975, Dr Mabon commented that the North Sea remained one of the world's most promising offshore areas for exploration and investment and, 'while we are anxious to see a new phase of oilfield development get off the ground, it is clear that the oil companies and their financial backers appreciate the stable financial and regulatory regime that has been built up here and intend to stay'.

Dr Mabon was reporting on recent developments to a meeting in Glasgow of the Oil Industry Liaison Committee, a body representing the unions, oil companies, and suppliers in the offshore industry.

The one thousandth well was spudded in by Shell for Ball and Collins (Oil and Gas) Ltd in block 29/15 on 3 May and should be completed by the end of June, said Dr Mabon. It meant that 491 exploration wells, 183 appraisal wells and 326 development wells had now been drilled and the 491 exploration wells had led to around 100 significant oil, gas and gas condensate discoveries.

Reviewing the recent performance of the UK offshore supplies industry Dr Mabon said that within a few weeks the breakdown of orders for goods and services in the North Sea for the year 1976 would be published by the Offshore Supplies Office. This year's 'Blue Book' – as it was now commonly known – would show an increase in the UK share of the market even though, as predicted, there had been a levelling off in ordering.

'Certainly the UK reputation overseas is first class. We have already started winning orders for offshore equipment against stiff foreign competition. I have had talks at senior government level in Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico, the United States and Norway. The Offshore Supplies Office has set up an export section which is identifying markets and opportunities. Our expertise is second to none. What we have learned in the North Sea is an invaluable asset and is in great demand in those areas now following our example in exploiting their offshore resources.'

Eadie agrees to opencast coal mining in north Wales

Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Energy, has decided that the National Coal Board (NCB) should be authorised to work coal by opencast operations at the 140-acre Crosstree Farm site near Buckley, Clwyd. The site is expected to yield 300,000 tons of good quality, steam-raising coal over a period of two and a half years.

Mr Eadie's decision follows a public inquiry into the NCB's proposals which took place at Queensferry near Chester, in November of last year. The inquiry was conducted by Mr T. M. Millington, a planning inspector at the Department of the Environment, whose report recommended that the NCB's proposals be approved, subject to suitable conditions.

Energy wealth 'no panacea'

Britain's energy wealth is no panacea but presents government with a major challenge over ensuring the most effective development of this country's energy resources, said Dr John Cunningham, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, on 24 June.

Addressing the final session of the National Union of Mineworkers (Durham Area) Summer School in Blackpool, he said that by 1980, Britain would be among a mere handful of nations with an exportable surplus of energy and was looking forward to energy abundance. The medium-term energy questions were not concerned with an energy scarcity but with energy glut. Energy wealth brought its own kind of difficulties.

'How do we balance and weigh the needs and demands of each of our four sources of energy supply – coal, oil and gas, nuclear power? How do we determine what level of overall energy supply we will require, and how do we determine the contribution each will make – and when? How do we allocate limited economic resources over the four industries to ensure all energy options are maintained in good order and readiness for use? How do we, in other words, ensure we have a flexible approach to energy policy – ready on all fronts for unknown events?'

One element of policy was clear, Dr Cunningham said. 'The energy crisis showed us that we can no longer go on using energy with no thought for future resources. Even our tremendous reserves of fossil fuels in Britain are finite – and will never again be cheap. Our prodigal energy habits in this country and throughout the western world must be changed. Economic growth must go hand in hand with economy in the use of energy. The inexorable rise in energy use, as a function of economic activity, must be stemmed.

'The close relationship between energy demand and economic growth must be broken.' When the economy picked up there

'Cormorant A' platform leaves Scotland

Towed by five tugs, the Cormorant A platform, which will cost about £300 million when on the seabed with decks fitted and ready for drilling, left Ardyne Point, Scotland, on 21 June for Stord in Norway. Cormorant A was designed by Sea Tank Co of Paris and constructed jointly with Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons for Shell/UK Expro. She is destined to be the master platform of the Brent fields system which includes Cormorant, Dunlin and Thistle fields.

should be no return to the traditional pattern of increasing energy consumption with economic growth. 'So conservation of energy – efficiency in the way we use energy is now an essential plank of energy strategy.'

Monopolies commission to investigate credit card franchise services

Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, has asked the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to investigate the supply in the United Kingdom of credit card franchise services. The director general has asked the commission to report within 18 months.

Any person or organisation wishing to offer evidence in relation to the reference should write to the Secretary, Monopolies and Mergers Commission, New Court, Carey Street, London WC2A 2JT.

The director general has received complaints about the way in which the credit card companies supply their services to traders. The most frequent complainants are petrol retailers. The complaints have raised various issues which in the director general's view require full investigation: whether it is appropriate for the credit card companies to levy any charge for supplying credit card services to traders (commissions ranging from about 3 per cent to about 7 per cent are charged on the face value of vouchers); whether it is appropriate, if a charge is made, for this to take the form of a commission on the value of the sale; whether it is appropriate for the majority of credit card companies to forbid traders to pass on to credit card-holders any part of the cost of the commission payable on credit card transactions, for example, by requiring the trader to give to credit card customers any concession which he makes to cash customers; and whether there is sufficient competition between the credit card companies in the terms offered to traders.

Two questions which arise are whether the traders who pay commission are in fact subsidising the periods of interest-free credit which are given to card-holders and whether prices are increased because traders are recovering the extra cost of commissions.

The director general has therefore decided to ask the commission to investigate the supply of credit card franchise services. For the reasons outlined above he has decided not to make a monopoly reference of the services supplied to credit card holders but it should be noted that the Consumer Credit Act 1974, which is in the process of being brought into force, will deal with many matters of concern to credit card-holders – prohibition of unsolicited credit cards, credit card companies' responsibility for defective goods, for example.

Although the director general has reasons for believing that a monopoly situation may exist in relation to the supply of credit card franchise services, it is for the commission to decide whether a monopoly situation does in fact exist and whether any of the practices by the credit card companies operate against the public interest.

Particulars of dealers in securities and of unit trusts

The following changes have taken place in parts 1, 4 and 5 of the 1977 edition of 'Particulars of dealers in securities and of unit trusts' published in May under the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958:

PART 1 HOLDERS OF PRINCIPAL'S LICENCES

Name	Nationality or country of incorporation	Address
ADDITIONS		
Chart Analysis (Investment Managers) Ltd	Great Britain	194-200 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4PE
Commodity Analysis Ltd	Great Britain	194-200 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4PE
Irene Manufacturing Co Ltd	Great Britain	119 Moorgate, London EC2M 6SU
Questor Financial Services Ltd	Great Britain	6 Grove Road, Blackboy Hill, Bristol BS6 6UJ
Suffolk Securities Ltd	Great Britain	32 Museum Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 1JB
Templegate Industrial Securities Ltd	Great Britain	30 Queen Charlotte Street, Bristol BS1 4HS
Trinity Trust and Savings Ltd	Great Britain	Osborn House, Trinity Trees, Eastbourne, Sussex BN21 3BB
DELETIONS		
British Credit Trust Ltd	Great Britain	PO Box No 8, Paragon House, Ferensway, Hull
Chart Analysis Ltd	Great Britain	194-200 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4PE
Clarke Cox-Johnson Ltd	Great Britain	c/o The English Association of American Bond and Share Holders Ltd, City Gate House, Finsbury Square, London EC2
Grimshawe Securities Ltd	Great Britain	Aquis House, 12 Greek Street, Leeds LS1 1HR
London Wall Money Management Ltd	Great Britain	1 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1PA
Lonscott Securities Ltd	Great Britain	292 Worton Road, Isleworth, Middx TW7 6DR
Phillip Brothers and Joseph Ltd	Great Britain	31-45 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7EA
Read [John Read & Associates Ltd]	Great Britain	22 Upper Grosvenor Street, London W1X 0DR
St Andrew Industrial Finance Ltd	Great Britain	9 Elm Row, Edinburgh EH7 UAR
Slater Walker Holdings Ltd	Great Britain	8 Old Change Court, London EC4M 8DA
CHANGES OF NAME		
Cayzer, Bowater & Company Ltd TO Cayzer Ltd		
Hentz [H. Hentz & Co Ltd] TO Shearson Hayden Stone Ltd		
International Marine Banking Co Ltd TO Marine Midland Ltd		
Kirkland-Whittaker, C., Ltd TO Kirkland-Whittaker Securities Ltd		
Notcutt Financial Services Ltd TO Notcutt Investment Management Ltd		
Ord Minett T. J. Thompson and Partners Ltd TO Ord Minett Ltd		
CHANGES OF ADDRESS		
Coates [C. E. Coates & Co Ltd]	Great Britain	UCM House, Swallow Place, Princes Street, London W1A 1BB
Corinthian Securities Ltd	Great Britain	20 Welbeck Street, London W1M 7PG
Cosgrave [N. K. Cosgrave & Co Ltd]	Great Britain	26 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE
Cristina Securities Ltd	Great Britain	Third Floor, Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2AT
Eagil Trust Company Ltd	Great Britain	1-5 Harley Street, London W1N 1DA
Fox-Pitt, Kelton Inc	USA	2-12 Wilson Street, London EC2M 2TE
International Marine Banking Co Ltd	Great Britain	6th Floor, 55 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BH
Jackson Graham Moore & Partners		Wardgate House, 59A London Wall, London EC2M 5TP
London & European Trust Ltd	Great Britain	92/94 Judd Street, London WC1H 9NT
Ord Minett Ltd	Bahamas	1 College Hill, London EC4R 2RA
Rutland Securities Ltd	Great Britain	8 Rathbone Place, London W1P 1DE

PART 4 EXEMPTED DEALERS including TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANKS

Name	Registered office, principal place of business or principal place of business in Great Britain
DELETION	
Jessel Securities Ltd	22 Austin Friars, London EC2N 2LA
CHANGES OF ADDRESS	
African Finance Corporation Ltd	29/30 St James's Street, London SW1A 1HB
Finlay [James Finlay Corporation Ltd]	PO Box 58, Finlay House, 10-14 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2PP

PART 5 AUTHORISED UNIT TRUST SCHEMES

Group and/or name and address of management company	Name of scheme	Name and address of trustee
ADDITIONS		
Chieftain Trust Managers Ltd 30-31 Queen Street London EC4R 1BR	Chieftain American Trust	Midland Bank Trust Co Ltd 27-32 Poultry London EC2P 2BX
Electra Fund Managers Ltd Electra House Temple Place Victoria Embankment London WC2R 3HP	Electra Small Companies Fund	Lloyds Bank Ltd 71 Lombard Street London EC3P 3BS

Group and/or name and address of management company	Name of scheme	Name and address of trustee
GT Unit Managers Ltd 1st Floor Park House 16 Finsbury Circus London EC2M 7DD	GT Four Yards Fund	Lloyds Bank Ltd 71 Lombard Street London EC3P 3BS
Midland Bank Group Unit Trust Managers Ltd 27/32 Poultry London EC2P 2BX	Midland Drayton Equity Exempt Trust	Royal Exchange Assurance Royal Exchange London EC3P 3DN
	Midland Drayton High Yield Unit Trust	Royal Exchange Assurance Royal Exchange London EC3P 3DN
Quilter Management Co Ltd Garrard House 31/45 Gresham Street London EC2V 7LH	Quadrant Income Fund	The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland The Mound Edinburgh EH1 1YZ
Schlesinger Trust Managers Ltd 19 Hanover Square London W1A 1DU	Schlesinger Extra Income Trust	Midland Bank Trust Co Ltd 27/32 Poultry London EC2P 2BX

CHANGES

The following change has taken place in the entry for 'Abacus Arbuthnot Ltd':

DELETE
Abacus Giants Unit Trust

AND REPLACE BY
Arbuthnot Giants Unit Trust

The following changes have taken place in the entry for 'Arbuthnot Securities Ltd':

DELETE
Jascot Capital Fund
Jascot Finance and Property Share Fund

AND REPLACE BY
Arbuthnot Capital Fund
Arbuthnot Finance and Property Share Fund

The following changes have taken place in the entry for 'Britannia Trust Management Ltd'

DELETE
Britannia Banking Insurance and Financial Shares Trust
Britannia General Fund

AND REPLACE BY
Britannia Financial Securities Trust
Britannia Universal Energy Trust

The following change has taken place in the entry for 'Hambros Unit Trust Managers Ltd' in the Scheme column:

DELETE
Hambro Exempt Fund

AND REPLACE BY
Allied Hambro Exempt Smaller Companies Fund

The following change has taken place in the entry for 'Henderson Unit Trust Management Ltd:'

DELETE
Henderson Gross Fund

AND REPLACE BY
Henderson North American Gross Fund

The following change has taken place in the entry for 'Reliance Unit Managers Ltd': In the name of Scheme column:

DELETE
British Life Capital Fund

AND REPLACE BY
The Sekforde Trust

The following change has taken place in the entry for 'Save and Prosper Securities Ltd' in the' Trustee' column against 'Save and Prosper United States Growth Fund':

DELETE
Barclays Bank Trust Co Ltd
54 Lombard Street
London EC3P 3AH

AND REPLACE BY
The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland
The Mound
Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

In the entry for 'Lloyds Bank Unit Trust Managers Ltd':

DELETE
Lloyds Bank Third Trust Trust

AND REPLACE BY
Lloyds Bank Third Unit Trust

In the 'Group and/or Management Company' entries:

DELETE
National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Ltd
Lothbury
London EC2P 2BP

AND REPLACE BY

National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Ltd
41 Lothbury
London EC2P 2BP

continued on page 662

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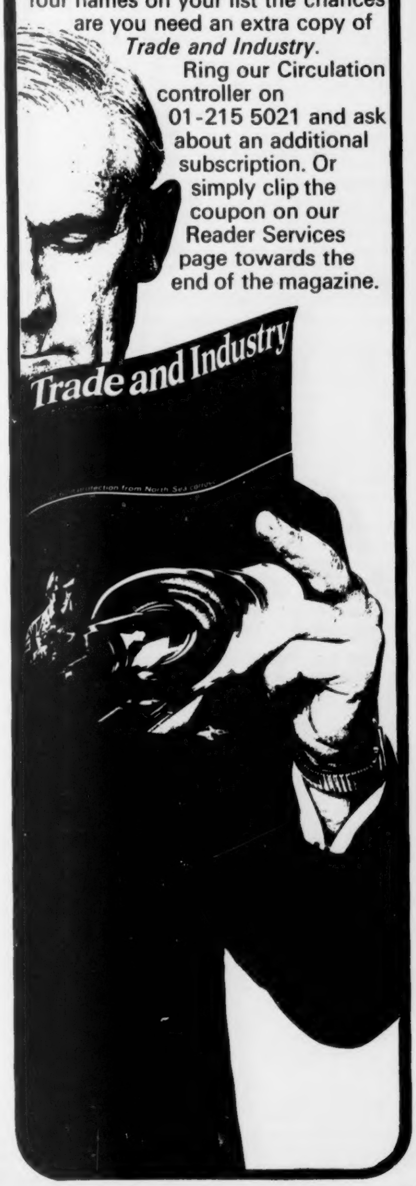

Particulars of dealers in **securities and of unit trusts** continued

DELETE
Norwich General Trust Ltd
Surrey Street
Norwich NOR 76L

AND REPLACE BY
Norwich General Trust Ltd
12 Surrey Street
Norwich NOR 76L

AMALGAMATIONS
Slater Walker Gas Industry and Power Trust and Slater Walker Universal Second Energy Trust have amalgamated with Britannia General Fund (now re-named Britannia Universal Energy Trust)
Britannia High Income Trust has amalgamated with Britannia Extra Income Trust

TERMINATIONS
Slater Walker Gas Industry and Power Trust and Slater Walker Universal Second Energy Trust will terminate pursuant to their amalgamation with Britannia Universal Energy Trust
Britannia High Income Trust will terminate pursuant to its amalgamation with Britannia Extra Income Trust

REVOCATION
By agreement with the Managers and the Trustee the Order of Authorisation for the following Scheme which has not been launched has been revoked:
Schlesinger Exempt Fund

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949, the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the date specified.

3 June 1977
1451419 Les Cables de Lyon
Coaxial cable
1452346 Les Cables de Lyon
Cable connector
1182137 Mercury Electriconics (Scotland) Ltd
Improvements in manometers or pressure transducers
1202912 Mercury Electriconics (Scotland) Ltd
Improvements in or relating to flow-measuring apparatus
1395496 The Post Office
Voice frequency transmission circuit

13 June 1977

1311718 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugot
Improvements in antivibratory devices with phase reversal
1353403 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugot
Improvements in seats equipped with a safety harness
1355196 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles
Improvements in latches
1387449 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugot
Improvements in automatic control devices of ventilation shutters of motor vehicles
1399914 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugot
Improvements in regulating devices for pouring molten metal
1431702 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugot
Hinge bearing
1347279 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault
Improvements to cooling systems
1458355 Agfa-Gavaert
Recording processes and materials containing a photo- and/or thermosensitive amine progenitor
1458364 Agfa-Gavaert
2-Pyrazolin-5-one derivatives as colour couplers for magenta
1458374 Agfa-Gavaert
2-Pyrazolin-5-one derivatives as colour couplers for magenta
1459769 Agfa-Gavaert
Process and apparatus for the edge knurling of a thermoplastic web
1459789 Agfa-Gevaert
Improved combination of photosensitive materials suited suited for use in radiography
1225593 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Apparatus for displaying and printing information
1289991 Westing House Brake English Electric Semi-Conductors Ltd
Semiconductor device mounting arrangement.
1299220 Roy Woodward Oliver
Method of forming icing ornaments
1338140 De Beers Industrial Diamond Division Ltd
Hard wearing surfaces
1435079 David Brown
An improved method of forming apertures in a hollow member and apparatus therefor

14 June 1977

1151888 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Photographic camera
1180539 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Method of producing holograms
1313916 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
An apparatus for conveying and degassing a viscous liquid
1058575 Agfa-Aktiengesellschaft
Improvements in and relating to photographic and cinematographic cameras
1404382 Chinoin Gyogyszer Es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara Rt
Homopyrimidazole derivatives
1426514 Chinoin Gyogyszer Es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara Rt
Basic esters and process for the preparation thereof
1431951 Physics International Co
A system for transmission of analog data over a single transmission channel from one of a plurality of remote stations to a central station
1431952 Physics International Co
Apparatus for demodulating a signal
1236745 Prowest Electronics Ltd
Limited circuits
1236928 Prowest Electronics Ltd
Variable gain circuit
1215028 Vono Ltd
Improvements relating to spring units
1346269 Edenvale Engineering Works (Proprietary) Ltd
Diamond and like grinding wheels
1450926 Anderson Development Co
Chromium tris-diorogano-orthophosphates and their production and use

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patents form no. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage, Comptroller

Cancellation of 'licences of right' endorsement

Any person may give notice of opposition to the undermentioned application for cancellation of endorsement 'licences of right' under section 36 of the Patents Act 1949 by filing patents form 46 within one month from the date of this magazine.

1275886 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Injection lasers
1407351 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Injection lasers

Order to restrict charges revoked

The Price Commission has revoked the notice issued on 20 November 1975 under section 6(2) and (3) of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973 to J. D. White Ltd of Harewood Works, Thornaby, Stockton-on-Tees, requiring the company to restrict charges for crane and plant hire.

The notice required J. D. White Ltd to reduce charges by an average of 8 per cent to eliminate excess profits of £211,000 made in 1974. As this excess has now been eliminated by action taken by the company in agreement with the commission, the notice is no longer required and has therefore been revoked.

Clearance of merger proposals

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided, on the information at present before him, not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

Lonrho Ltd and AVP Industries Ltd
BP Chemicals Ltd and the Thermosetting Division of Bakelite Xylonite Ltd
Jardine, Matheson and Co Ltd and Thompson, Graham and Co Ltd
Rolls-Royce Motors Holdings Ltd and Fodens Ltd

Advance factory extended in South Kirkby

English Industrial Estates Corporation is building an extension of about 1850 m² (20 000 sq ft) to the premises occupied by William Lamb and Co (Footwear) Ltd, on the Langthwaite Grange industrial estate, South Kirkby, South Yorkshire.

William Lamb and Co (Footwear) Ltd of Wakefield took occupation of a 900 m² (10 000 sq ft) advance factory on the Langthwaite Grange estate some 18 months ago to expand production of their sports and leisure footwear. This extension will treble the size of the original factory. The company expects to employ another 160 people over the next few years as production is built up in the extended factory.

Colour code labelling to be retained

The labelling of three-core flexes on domestic electrical appliances to explain the colour coding of the cores is to continue indefinitely. New regulations* published on 8 June amend the Electrical Appliances (Colour Code) Regulations 1969 whose labelling requirements, due to lapse on 1 July 1977, have operated since new colours for flexes were adopted in 1969. The amending regulations delete this date and the labelling requirement therefore remains in force indefinitely.

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* 'The Electrical Appliances (Colour Code) (Amendment) Regulations 1977, SI 1977 No. 931', HMSO, price 10p.

Advice that many people are still not familiar with these colours and may still wire up an electrical plug incorrectly, and possibly dangerously if there is no label on the flex, has caused the decision to retain it.

Ships lights and signalling equipment

Revised instructions for the guidance of marine surveyors in inspecting ships' navigation lights and sound and visual signalling equipment have been published. They set out the requirements which must be met to comply with the statutory provisions for the approval of equipment intended for use at sea. The 'Instructions to Surveyors on the Survey of Lights and Signalling Equipment', are issued by Marine Division, Department of Trade and published by HMSO, price £3.25.

Degree day service: figures for May

Degree day figures for May, published by the Department of Energy, are shown below. The service is designed to help industry and commerce improve the efficiency with which space heating systems are used.

External temperature

The figures are a record of the extent and length of time in a particular month that the external temperature fell below a base figure of 15.5° C (60° F). Because this affects the amount of fuel needed to provide a given level of space heating the figures can be used to check on the efficiency of heating systems. By comparing the amount of fuel used with the number of degree days in monthly periods of different years, energy managers and others can monitor the performance of heating plant and operate it more economically.

Free booklet

Detailed information about the system is contained in a free booklet, 'Degree Days' (no. 7 in the Fuel Efficiency series) available from the Library, Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ, tel. 01-211 3394. It explains the theory and practice of using the figures and contains a map showing the locations of the 17 Meteorological Office stations and the regions covered.

MAY DEGREE DAYS (BASE TEMPERATURE 15.5° C)

Region	Calculated average for May 1957/76	May 1976	May 1977
Thames Valley	113	83	135
South East	145	119	170
Southern	141	120	154
South West	131	121	140
Severn Valley	129	111	152
Midland	152	127	188
West Pennines	139	126	156
North West	163	152	185
Borders	193	177	226
North East	154	144	185
East Pennines	139	130	166
East Anglia	143	111	165
West Scotland	163	158	186
East Scotland	189	168	228
North East Scotland	206	184	217
Wales	156	158	175
Northern Ireland	167	161	191

Government sales

Ministry of Defence

Sales by auction

13 and 15 July 1977—Miscellaneous stores

Location

The Great Danes Hotel, Ashford Road, Hollingbourne, Near Maidstone, Kent

Auctioneers

Fuller, Horsey, Sons and Cassell (Dept L), 52 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9ET (tel. 01-248 7954)

The stores, which are lying at various depots, include vehicles and MT spares, jerricans, machine and hand tools, watches, clocks, binoculars, photographic equipment, textiles and a large quantity of household furniture.

20 July 1977—Miscellaneous stores

Location

The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds

Auctioneers

Bartle and Son (Dept L), 52 Merrion Street, Leeds LS2 8JH (tel. 0532 450898)

The stores, lying at Regional Depot/OSU, RAOC Barlow and other locations, include vehicles, machine tools, garage and workshop equipment, MT spares, clothing, footwear, household and office equipment and furniture, wireless and signal equipment, and many other miscellaneous items.

Catalogues which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 20p, postage and packing 10p extra (postal orders only).

Sale by tender

The Procurement Executive, Ministry of Defence invite tenders for the sale of an AEI 1 million volt electron microscope Type EM7 lying at the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middx. Admission to view is by production of tender documents obtained from MOD (PE) Sales Supply 6aii, St Christopher House, Southwark Street, London SE1 0TD (tel. 01-928 7999, ext. 4061 or 3900).

Wembley Auction Sales 1977

5 July 1977

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Service Agency Supplies Stores India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
Description of Goods:	Office and Miscellaneous Furniture etc.
Auctioneers:	Messrs. Hollingsworths Westcombe House 56/58 Whitcomb Street Leicester Square London WC2H 7DR Tel. 01-893 1875

Potential buyers are advised to refer to the official catalogue available direct from the auctioneers price 10p

ENCIRCLE TI 543 ON PAGE 715 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Publications

German Market Survey, by Peter Douglas. (162 pages. Business Books. 1977. £15.00. ISBN 0 220 66324 6.) Germany is a complex area for the intending exporter, who may well find himself overwhelmed by the amount and diversity of information sources available. The aim of this book is to strike a balance by providing the businessman with a concise but comprehensive guide to the history of the West German market, the reasons for its sound economic performance, together with sufficient information whereby fruitful market entry can be achieved.

The introductory section sets the context within which the modern federal republic has evolved and continues with a close look at communications, plus an examination of West Germany's major industrial sectors, the banking and financial system. It closes with sections on regional policy and investment incentives.

Part two is concerned with the conduct of business in the federal republic. In particular, this core part of the volume studies marketing and market research, advertising and public relations, import and exchange control regulations, transport of goods to West Germany, the establishment of sales and distribution channels, agents, the selling of consumer goods, retail structure, purchasing groups and government procurement.

The third part explores the approach to and the mechanics of investment in the federal republic, and in so doing surveys the types of business unit, relevant legislation involving labour, taxation, etc, as well as a wealth of other important topics in this area.

Reference information includes British embassies and consulates, sources of further information, and a full guide to those publications and information contact points relevant to the West German market to be found in the UK's Department of Trade. Other UK government and official bodies of interest are also listed and this part is completed by a short select bibliography.

The study is well illustrated with maps, tables and other sets of data, as well as a mass of tabulated commercial and market information. This is an up-to-date and very comprehensive introduction to the EEC's richest potential market.

Innovation and Productivity under Nationalisation: the first 30 years, by Chris Harlow. PEP/Allen and Unwin. (256 pages. Published on behalf of Political and Economic Planning by Allen and Unwin. 1977. £10.00. ISBN 0 04 600003 8.) The object of this PEP study is to examine the choice of new production techniques available to the publicly-owned industries in the course of their first 30 years. Also explored is the effectiveness to which these techniques have been utilised.

It has become increasingly apparent that in the heat generated by the debate on the political aspects of public ownership, the fundamental economic issues involved have frequently been obscured: this volume seeks to rectify this oversight and enlarge the field of discussion by both defining and analysing these economic and related topics. Particular emphasis is placed on innovation and its relationship to capital investment decisions. At the same time the author explores post-war technical developments and assesses the measures used by corporations for adopting the most promising of these. The effects which were registered upon factor productivity are also examined in some detail. Two examples demonstrate the scope and nature of the text: an examination of aircraft innovation and its effect on productivity in BEA; and, process innovation and growth in the gas industry.

Full documentation and references to sources are given at the end of each chapter and ample illustrative data is presented throughout the volume in order to reinforce the author's conclusions. A timely and original work, using the experience of the past in order to throw light on present developments.

Trading with Yugoslavia, by Kurt Weisskopf. London Chamber of Commerce and Industry. (70 pages. London Chamber of Commerce and Industry. 1976. £6.00. ISBN 0 901 902 46 2.) This report covers the economic and industrial structure of Yugoslavia, its foreign trade and marketing. Both the experienced exporter and the newcomer to the field will find it of value. It quickly takes us from a background survey to the current situation including raw materials and resources, industrialisation, agriculture and transport and communications.

In the context of information on foreign trade, stress is placed on the need for EEC-Yugoslav co-operation. Specific information relating to marketing in Yugoslavia is included, with details of fairs, foreign company representation, and banking and insurance. There are brief details of the current development plans, and many useful names and addresses.

Sales' The Law relating to bankruptcy, liquidations and receiverships. Sixth edition, by J. H. Thompson. (332 pages. 1977. Macdonald and Evans. £4.50 paperback or £7.50 hardback. ISBN 0 7121 1949 3 (paperback); 0 7121 1952 3(hardback).) This is the first new edition of this book for over 20 years and the first to be written since the death of its original author. The revised text incorporates over 250 additional cases and a wide range of new legislative provisions. Collectively these are indicative of significant developments in insolvency law, reflecting the substantial increase in insolvency work in recent years.

The book is divided into three parts on bankruptcy, company liquidation, and receivership. Also included are full tables of cases and statutes plus a detailed index. This new edition is one of the few books currently in print which gives an up-to-date survey of the whole field of insolvency law. It will be a valuable tool for students, teachers and practitioners of insolvency law.

Chemicals 77: a directory of chemicals on the UK market. Chemical Industries Association. (211 pages. Chemical Industries Association Publications Department, 93 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TU. 1977. £8.00 (UK); £10.00 (overseas).) This new guide to chemicals available from manufacturers based in the UK, incorporates information valid as of August 1976. It replaces *British Chemicals and their manufacturers*, which was the previous CIA chemicals directory.

This edition is designed to assist UK and international traders and manufacturers, as well as research laboratories and similar institutions, by providing a complete directory to the chemicals and allied products available from members of the association. The first part consists of names and addresses of members, each of which is assigned a code number. This codification is utilised in the main body of the volume, which consists of an alphabetical list of over 8000 chemicals. By referring to the code system, cross referencing from manufacturer and merchant to a particular chemical is thus made possible. Concluding sections deal with proprietary and trade names, together with trade marks.

Capital Markets in the EEC: the sources and uses of medium and long-term finance, by E. Victor Morgan and Richard Harrington. (495 pages. Published on behalf of the Economists Advisory Group Ltd, by Wilton House Publications, 16 Regency Street, London SW1. 1977. £20.00. ISBN 0 904655 08 3.) This volume is a sequel to the 1974 Economists Advisory Group's study *Banking Systems and Monetary Policy in the EEC*. While the former study concentrated on the short end of the capital market, as well as monetary problems, this publication focuses on the longer end of the market. The role of the banks as suppliers of medium- and iong-term finance is discussed on both a country-by-country and topic-orientated basis. But the volume concentrates on the sources of savings, public and private sector financing patterns, together with a comprehensive survey of the institutions involved in all types of loans as well as the securities markets.

The country analyses are contained in part one: part two is devoted to comparative studies dealing with major issues of public interest. The wealth of data interspersed throughout the various studies generally incorporate quantitative information spanning the years 1970 to 1975. This is a very specific and comprehensive cumulation of highly complex information, welded together to form a valuable reference source for all those concerned with finance and commerce, banking and capital funding within the EEC and its member states. As such, it should clarify many of the questions arising from the disparate financial structures still prevailing in the EEC. The volume concludes with a workmanlike bibliography.

New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Anti-fire foam

Designed for rapid rescue in defence or aviation fires Angus Fire Armour Ltd of Thame, Oxford, has introduced a new fluorochemical foam.

Known as Angus Tridol 6, the product uses fluorochemical surfactants which produce foam with a positive spreading action over burning fuels to give very rapid foam cover and fire control at low application rates. It is suitable for aircraft crash fires and those situations where rapid fire attack and control are essential to save life or prevent major escalation.

The foam meets the requirements of UK Defence Standard 42-24 and of the fire performance tests in US specification MIL-F-24385.

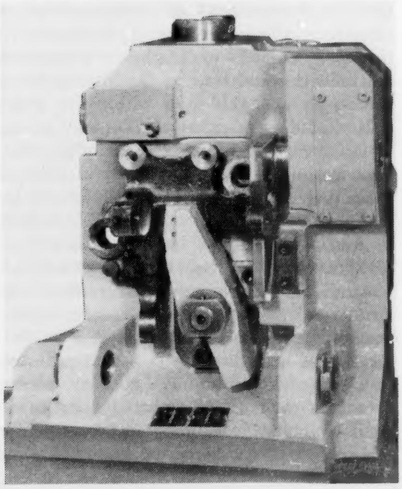
Tridol 6 may be used simultaneously with other foam concentrates and can be used with fresh water or sea water as a 5 to 6 per cent solution. Its film forming properties allow it to be introduced into existing water-spray or sprinkler systems giving an increased capability against flammable liquid fires, and as a fixed protection system for loading bays and other localised risk areas.

Further information: circle 501

Making car components

A pallet fixture holding a motor car component, in this case the left hand part of the steering knuckle. Another separate pallet carries the right hand part. The component is clamped into the fixture and travels through the Transfer-matic, an eight station machine made by Cross International of Knowsley, Merseyside, special machine tool manufacturers.

Further information: circle 502



Finding the cable

'Stethoscope' antenna, to simplify the tracing of individual cables in cable ducts or open trenches, which has been introduced by Electrolocation Ltd as an accessory to their general-purpose GPR 404 pipe and cable locator. The gooseneck can be twisted and bent to practically any configuration to enable the search coil to reach into, around or over any other cables or obstructions, to seek out and identify an individual cable among many. Because the search technique relies solely on induced electronic signals without the need for any direct connections, it can be used safely without isolating any cables.

Further information: circle 503

Superior pH glass

After months of development work, Russell pH Ltd have introduced into their pH electrode production range an entirely new and vastly superior pH glass. The novel formulation, coded 213, exhibits excellent pH response properties. An independent evaluation recently carried out at the University of Newcastle showed mean alkaline errors in 14.1 pH solution and mean acid errors in 0.07 pH solution to be no more than 0.03 pH, with an incredibly fast response over the whole 0-14 pH span. The glass itself is exceedingly tough, permitting the construction of really robust electrodes that can withstand even the roughest of usage. It can also be steam sterilised and used at temperatures from 0°C 120°C. The 213 glass is now available in pH electrodes, specially designated 'J' type, of all 65 types, laboratory and industrial, in the current Russell pH catalogue.

Further information: circle 504.

Microfiche reader

Low cost, portability and reliability requirements, are met by a microfiche reader introduced by Microscot Ltd. Called the Lensman Mk.5, the reader has downward projection, placing the image on a white screen in the natural reading position, making it particularly suitable for educational, scientific and library use and for micropublishing programmes, as well as for general commercial use with microfiche or jacketed microfilm. With new lens options, the Lensman Mk.5 also fills the needs for a portable reader for COM fiche and other higher magnification systems.

The image is thrown downwards on to a built-in screen on the detachable front flap, or a sheet of white paper on the desk. Not only is this the natural and most satisfactory position for study, but it offers other benefits. Diagrams in the text may readily be measured or traced and the reader may easily be turned to read side-facing material or raised up to increase the magnification. Laid on its back the Lensman provides wall projection for small meetings.

The basic lens has a magnification of 22× for reading microfiche to the COSATI or NMA specifications (or microfilm jackets) filmed at 20/24 reductions. An alternative lens gives a magnification of 34×, for reading 42/48× COM fiche or conventional fiche filmed at similar magnifications. A new floating lens swinging arm system gives a continuous in-focus condition under all operating circumstances. The extra brightness of the reader gives an image that is easily readable in almost any normal lighting conditions.

Further information: circle 505

The Lensman Mk. 5

Technology news

Windmills: £160,000 study project underway

Cautious controlled curiosity, rather than an abandoned bout of nostalgia, marked the announcement on Wednesday last week that the Department of Energy and a group of industrial companies were to join forces to look at windmills, or, to be more precise, to examine the economic possibilities of generating electricity from aerogenerators.

This coincided with the publication of the Department of Energy report* on the prospects for wind power, which, while finding 'no clear economic case' for using windmills for the large scale generation of electricity, nevertheless admitted that 'the potential contribution from this source has a signficance that is too large to ignore'.

As usual, the chief objections were thought to be the choice of sites, the most suitable locations being hill tops and coastal uplands, many of which are recognised as areas of 'outstanding natural beauty'. While traditional old-fashioned windmills may now be regarded as picturesque, cynics maintain this is merely a reflection of scarcity and there is a threat that the new style aerogenerators may look not unlike the dreaded electricity pylons.

Perhaps this is a little unfair to the 46 m (150 ft) diameter rotor, favoured by the report, which using current helicopter blade technology, is described as the maximum size that can be built with confidence. Such a machine, which has its blades effectively vertical to the ground, would have a nominal rating of 1 MW (1000 kw). Confidence is, equally, an integral part of the structure in the case of some more revolutionary designs but the report recommends the more familiar type of structure because of its 'proven technology'. Even so, vertical axis windmills have not been entirely discounted and it is hoped that a contract may be placed in the future. With regard to the siting of windmills in shallow water (see *Trade and Industry*, 11 March 1977, page 621) there is also likely to be a contract to study the development more closely.

So far the Department of Energy has commissioned a detailed design study for a large aerogenerator from an industrial consortium which will also consider sites with favourable wind conditions.

The members of the industrial consortium are: Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Co Ltd, Electrical Research Association Ltd, Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd and Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd.

The department and the consortium will each provide £75,000 for the project, while the South of Scotland Electricity Board and the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board will contribute work to the value of £10,000.

The report itself is the result of a paper assessment by the department's Energy Technology Support Unit (ETSU) of the prospects for using wind energy in the United Kingdom in terms of: a quantification of the energy available over the land area of the country; the amount of energy that it is practical to extract; the capital costs and the price of energy supplied; and the environmental aspects.

It deals primarily with the possible use of aerogenerators for the large-scale production of electricity because, though intermediate and small types might become the basis of successful commercial enterprises under some conditions, they would not in aggregate make a significant contribution to the country's overal energy supply.

It also recommends that commercial development of medium size aerogenerators of around 100 kW should be supported to ensure a British presence in the potential home and export markets and to gain experience, though their potential contribution to UK energy supply does not merit a large scale programme.

An interesting conclusion from the study is that if aerogenerators could be developed, manufactured and installed for the capital costs estimated, the cost of wind energy on the most favourable sites (with mean annual wind speeds well above 14½ knots) is now approaching the point where it could break even with the price of fuel burnt in generating plants. The annuity value of the oil saved in the plants off-loaded by the aerogenerators on selected hill sites would be between £37 and £51 per ton which is near, but somewhat above, the April 1976 market prices for fuel oil.

In fact, on the windiest hill sites, mostly in the north of Scotland, it appears that aerogenerators might be economic; but as these sites would be very remote they would have high access and transmission costs. Also, if a limited number of machines were produced for these particular sites only, the advantages of large scale production would be foregone and capital costs per machines would be higher.

At the moment, it must be admitted that aerogenerators installed on the less favourable wind sites would not prove to be economic. The study shows that the break even price of the fuel replaced by machines on sites with mean annual wind speeds of about 11½ knots would be between £120 and £167 per ton oil which is still very much above market prices.

The Electrical Research Association has identified nearly 1500 potential aerogenerator sites on hills in the British Isles: 1108 in Scotland, 161 in England, 159 in Wales and 28 in the Isle of Man.

The ETSU assessment says that if wind power were required to provide a more significant contribution to future national energy goals, the basic assumptions made in the ERA siting study would have to be widened beyond hills to consider other open sites.

If a large wind energy programme were needed to help serve the nation's energy demand it would be technically feasible to install some 3000 aerogenerators on hill top sites with winds greater than 14½ knots and about another 7000 at open locations in coastal areas with winds of about 11½ knots.

Such large numbers may sound daunting to the environmentalist, but it should in theory be possible to compromise by drawing on other energy sources as well. Some windmill supporters have suggested that it might be practical to think in terms of aerogenerators contributing about a third of total electricity requirements.

The report considers that 10 000 machines might yield an average annual total of around 16 Terawatt hours (16 TWh = 16 000 million kW hours) of electricity, a saving on primary fuel roughly equivalent to 8 million tons of coal a year.

The study estimates that electricity sent out by an aerogenerator would cost between 1.4p and 3.2p/kWh and compares this with costs from other means of generation. This compares with figures published by the generating boards expressed in pence per kilowatt hour: diesel-fired plant, 1.66; oil, 1.09; coal, 0.97; nuclear, Magnox stations, 0.67; hydro schemes, 0.179.

The report concedes that basic technology for the development of aerogenerators is already available in several industries. If properly co-ordinated, these production capabilities could lead to the installation of prototypes and field tests within five years.

It should be seen in the context of the announcement last year of a £1 million two-year feasibility study into the possibility of extracting energy from sea waves; funds for this purpose were increased to £2.5 million in April of this year. In July of last year, £840,000 was allocated over three years for a research and development programme into geothermal energy, the naturally-occurring heat of the earth. In February of this year, there was a £3.6 million research and development programme for solar energy over four years; with other money made available, total government expenditure for this subject over that period comes to some £6 million.

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* 'The Prospects for the Generation of Electricity from Wind Energy in the United Kingdom', Energy Paper No. 21, *available from HMSO and government bookshops, price £2.25.*

Improving the internal combustion engine

The Mechanical Engineering and Machine Tools Requirements Board is funding a programme of work at Harwell which should help industry to improve designs for the internal combustion engine. The work, which is being undertaken in close collaboration with leading British companies, is concerned with the application of the latest experimental techniques to the direct quantitative observation of engine behaviour. In particular, laser techniques will be developed for anemometry, particle sizing and chemical spectroscopy. While the techniques are devised by Harwell, an advisory panel made up of internal combustion engineers from industry provides guidance in the design of experiments and in the analysis and interpretation of the resultant data.

Dr P. Hutchinson, the Harwell project manager, said: 'We hope the work on the ICE project will help industry to develop engines with improved fuel consumption and performance, while meeting the increasingly stringent environmental requirements in all developed countries.'

The NDT centre acts as a national centre to help promote higher standards of inspection and quality control in British industry.

The MEMTRB, one of nine set up by the Department of Industry, is keen to encourage activities which help improve the competitiveness of UK manufacturing industry in the mechanical engineering and machine tools sectors. In particular, it is able to provide financial support for research and innovation in support of this objective. It welcomes submissions direct from industrial organisations or from industrial companies in collaboration with research establishments.

Solar powered telephone

People living in remote rural areas could soon have their telephone calls powered by sunshine. A telephone service to a warden's post in a bird sanctuary in East Anglia has been powered by solar panels for the past two years – and the experiment has been such a success the Post Office may extend the system.

The solar panels recharge the batteries which provide power for the very high frequency (VHF) radio link from the customer's telephone to the exchange. And even on cloudy days it is still possible for the solar panels to pick up enough energy to power the system. There are many VHF radio links in the country which could use this energy-saving method.

VHF radio is the only practical way telephone service can be provided to people living in the more sparsely-populated parts of the country. Normally VHF links are both expensive to install, a single line can cost up to £4,000, and to maintain. But by using solar panels to recharge the batteries which power the radio link maintenance is much easier, with inspection trips being made every three months instead of every three weeks.

At the Blakeney Point bird sanctuary, near Cley next the Sea, Norfolk, it has been shown that even during the winter the solar panels, located on top of a 30 ft pole so no shadows fall on them, can produce enough power to recharge the batteries.

Digital fuel control for small jet engines

A digital fuel control system, which the company has developed for application on a variety of helicopter jet engines, is to be tested by Marconi-Elliott Avionic Systems Ltd. The computerised system designed and built by Marconi-Elliott's powerplant systems division, Rochester, is to enhance operational safety and to reduce the helicopter pilot's workload. A 'breadboard' system will be tested this year by Rolls-Royce small engine division at the Hatfield test centre, using a Gnome 1200 engine and the Wessex 'rotor tower', a twin-engine helicopter test rig.

The controller, which incorporates a small digital processor, is intended for new and uprated versions of helicopter engines, such as the Rolls-Royce Gem and has been designed for mounting on the engine itself. The system will undergo tests with Gnome engines, which are ideal for the purpose because they already have an analogue electronic control of known performance.

On the Wessex rig two engines are coupled to the rotor transmission, one of which will be fitted with the digital control. Its performance will be matched to the other by means of the digital program. This test will establish the ease with which a standard digital controller can be adapted quickly, through its software, to suit virtually any kind of small engine, a major cost saving advantage.

Designed for mounting on a small jet engine, the system comprises an electronics unit, two stepper motors to drive the throttle and a cockpit-mounted push-button control panel. It can be applied to a range of engine types, or for up-rated versions of the same engine, simply by reprogramming an electronic module which contains the digital program.

The push-button control enables the helicopter pilot to initiate a preflight confidence check before take-off and, when the engine has been started, to achieve 'ground idle' control automatically. To take off, he simply selects 'flight idle' by pushing the appropriate button and, thereafter, has only to operate his collective pitch lever to achieve the required torque automatically. A miniature 'joystick' in the panel enables the transition to flight-idle power to be set at different rates to allow for different take-off conditions. For example, a high transition rate enables a helicopter to take off from the deck of a frigate in heavy seas with greater safety. The complete operation is automatically monitored by an independent micro-processor incorporated in the system. Should a fault occur, the pilot is alerted and control, via the second stepper motor, is automatically returned to him.

Neutron research at the Rutherford Laboratory

Government approval has just been given for the construction of an intense neutron beam research facility at the Science Research Council's Rutherford Laboratory. It is planned to serve the needs of university scientists studying the liquid and solid states, including applications in physics, chemistry, biology and materials science, and should help to bring Britain to the forefront of research into the basic structure of matter. The facility will make use of existing buildings and plant which will be released when the 7 GeV proton accelerator, Nimrod, is closed down in 1978. The proton beam is incident upon a heavy target to yield intense bursts of neutrons which are slowed to thermal energies by an assembly of reflectors and moderating material. This means that scientists will be able to use pulses of neutrons up to a thousand times more intense than those available anywhere else in the world to investigate the structure and properties of many important types of solids, liquids and living material, with possible applications to the control of cancer and improvement in polymers and plastics. First experiments should begin by the end of 1982.

Thermal neutron scattering is a technique used in an increasingly wide range of disciplines. Nuclear reactors have been the usual source of neutron beams, and for some years now UK scientists numbering approximately 300 have been made use of facilities at AERE Harwell, and at Europe's highest flux research reactor at the French-German-UK Institut Laue-Langevin in Grenoble. However, these installations are severely overloaded, and there is little possibility of significantly extending the capability of reactors to satisfy the demands of new experiments. But the pulsed nature of the new source will enable higher *effective* intensities to be realised, and in addition to relieving present demands it is certain to open up new areas of research altogether. Already mentioned are optics as diverse as the magnetic behaviour of materials, the structure of molten metals, and the nature of biological materials under stress, as in muscle contraction.

Design work for the new facility is already in progress, and construction and installation will start following the closure of Nimrod. The estimated capital cost of the basic facility is about £8 million spread over approximately five years. In addition, up to £3 million will be spent on providing appropriate research equipment. If the facility were built on a new site, it is estimated that it could cost as much as £30 million.

The new Rutherford Laboratory project is at present the most advanced of its kind and is already attracting international interest.

R&D statistics

Employment on scientific R&D in industry in 1975 is analysed in detail in an article on page 692.

Computer matches people and jobs

On the spot matching of jobs to people as well as people to jobs using 'real-time' computer techniques is now an every day routine at seven job centres run by the Employment Service Agency in London. The computer system, which the ESA claims is several jumps ahead of the rest of the world and arousing interest in America as well as Europe, began live operation at the Romford job centre in March. Developed in conjunction with Honeywell Information Systems Ltd, it is being extended to cover 10 per cent of the London area by September when it will be handling the details of some 20 000 people seeking jobs and about 2000 job vacancies. Security of information is protected by a system of keys and passwords assigned to particular employment officers.

The Capital (computer assisted placing in the areas of London) project will run for a year at employment offices in Barking, Becontree, Canning Town, Dagenham, East Ham, Hornchurch, Ilford, Leyton, Leytonstone and Stratford as well as Romford. The results of the pilot scheme will then be assessed and a decision made whether to extend the project to the rest of London.

The advantages looked for from the project derive from the speed with which information can be got to all employment officers simultaneously and then accessed using Raytheon Cossor visual display terminals. ESA has calculated that if all local vacancies were circulated to all London employment offices by any other means there would be some 30 million pieces of paper circulating in the London area during a year.

The computer system eliminates most of the paperwork and cuts the circulation time to a matter of seconds. Fast terminal response times, even during peak hour conditions, are being achieved so that the front-line employment officer with a registrant job-seeker facing him, or with a would-be employer on the phone, can give each an up-to-the-minute situation report.

In the Capital job matching system every front-line employment officer and order taker, the person who takes down details of job vacancies, is equipped with a visual display unit consisting of a 'tv type' display screen and keyboard. The display terminal is connected directly to the computer and details of the registrant or vacancy are typed in via the keyboard. By pressing a 'send key' on the keyboard the vacancies and registrants are then matched against each other and a short-list is presented on the screen in a few seconds. The employment officer or order taker can then make his or her selection from the short-list or widen the search. The computer does not, therefore, make the final selection, still less does it decide who should be submitted to what vacancy. It simply produces a list of possible applicants for jobs and the employment officer must then make the final assessment.

A new procedure that the computer system uses is the centralising of job vacancy taking for a number of offices at a single point, thus enabling the service to have a number of expert and specialised order takers specially trained to get the best possible 'profile' of the vacancy and the employer's requirements. This is now centralised for the pilot project at Dagenham. While the employer is on the telephone to the vacancy taking centre, the order taker retrieves on to the visual display unit the employer's details from the computer file. He then 'types' into the display the details of the vacancy. With the employer still on the telephone, he will ask the computer to carry out a match. The employer can then be told if 'prima facie' suitable registrants are available.

Details are then transmitted to the vacancy office, which will be responsible for a final sift and submission of suitable registrants to the employer. If the first match fails to produce any suitable registrants, the order taker can discuss the order with the employer and can make amendments (for example, to age specifications) to enable a second match to take place.

Matching is still based on the Codot (classification of occupation and directory of titles) system of 3500 numbers used throughout the ESA's network of offices. However, the use of visual displays connected on-line to the computer give the employment officers much greater flexibility in searching for matches. Additionally, extra Codot numbers have been incorporated to order wide ranges of broadly similar work, a facility which meets the requirements of a significant number of job seekers and employers. The ESA stresses that the computer system is an aid to the employment officers and not a de-humanising tool. On the contrary, it extends the capability to take human factors into consideration.

Damp control on printing plates

Dampaguide, a new system for measuring damp conditions on printing plates, has now been introduced by Crabtree Vickers of Leeds.

Up till now variations in litho print quality have been caused by changes in the damp level. To help prevent this problem, Dampaguide provides an early warning of damping fluctuations and a reliable means of measuring water film thickness on the plate. Indicators and remote controls make it possible to adjust the damp level before print quality is impaired.

Developed in research laboratories at Vickers, Dampaguide has been tested on Crabtree-Vickers presses. After several years of trials and continuous improvement it has been proved to give accurate results, enabling printers to maintain high production speeds with reduced wastage.

The principle of operation is simple. Just as the printer's eye gauges damp levels from the sheen on the plate, Dampaguide measures the same sheen electronically. The result is shown in a scale which is placed close to the press delivery, so that the printer can maintain his inspection of printed sheets and at the same time control damping conditions. What the electronic eye sees on the plate can be conveyed to a remote read-out at the delivery end of the press. From this position, the printer can make the necessary adjustments to damp level without actually visiting the unit requiring attention.

Further information: circle 506

Parliament

Monday, 20 June

Motor manufacturing industry

Doug Hoyle (Nelson and Colne) asked about meetings of the 'Economic Development Council for the motor manufacturing industry'; how many people were involved in servicing it and what had been the cost to date; and if it would formulate an overall coherent programme for the industry.

Mr Huckfield replied that he assumed that Mr Hoyle was referring to the Motor Industry Tripartite Group. The group was chaired by his rt hon friend and included the heads of the four major manufacturing companies in the United Kingdom – British Leyland, Ford, Chrysler and Vauxhall – and the leaders of the two main trade unions in the industry – the Transport and General Workers Union and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. The group met as and when it was necessary and dates were settled by mutual agreement. The officials of the appropriate sponsorship division in his department acted as the secretariat for the tripartite group. It was not possible to distinguish in terms of cost between their work for the group and their other duties. The government's policy towards the motor industry was set out in the white paper on the British motor industry (cmnd 6377). The function of the group was to consider the issues identified in that white paper and the white paper on industrial strategy (cmnd 6315), in so far as they related to the industry and the action that needed to be taken by government, management, and unions to secure a viable, substantial, and internationally competitive industry in the 1980s.

Repayment of regional development grant

Mr Hoyle asked how much of the public money paid to Courtaulds Ltd in respect of its textile factory in Co Durham had been recovered by the government.

Mr Cryer said that Courtaulds currently had textile factories at both Belmont and Spennymoor in Co Durham. With the consent of the company, he was able to report that the company had repaid regional development grants totalling £896,818 in respect of the Belmont weaving factory.

EEC and redundancies

Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked if plans to save the jobs threatened by the closure of the Plessey factory in Kirkby and redundancies announced elsewhere were dependent upon the approval of the EEC commission.

Mr Williams said he had announced on 3 June the availability of selective financial assistance for the Plessey printed wiring board project at South Shields. He was very prepared to discuss with Plessey any further plans they had to alleviate redundancies. Plans which involved payment of government assistance under regional or other schemes were subject to the procedure set out in article 93(3) of the treaty of Rome for notification to the commission.

BP and deep-sea mining

Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked about the current involvement of British Petroleum in deep sea mining ventures to exploit manganese nodules from the sea bed.

Mr Cryer replied that British Petroleum had announced last January that it had purchased a 10 per cent share in an international consortium examining the feasibility of mining manganese nodules from the deep sea bed. The decision to acquire such an interest would have been taken in the light of normal commercial considerations and in accordance with the group's policy of seeking appropriate opportunities for expansion. Although the government held a substantial stake in BP it had been the continuing policy not to intervene in the administration of the company as a commercial concern. It was not possible to relate the profit from any one investment by the company to the return to the exchequer.

DoI cash limits

Dr Oonagh McDonald (Thurrock) asked the Secretary of State for Industry about spending on the programmes in his department subject to cash limits in 1976-77 and in 1977-78.

Mr Huckfield replied that in 1976/77 his department was responsible for three cash blocks. Final figures for expenditure on programmes covered by these blocks were not yet available but provisional outturn figures were as follows:

Cash block	Description of expenditure	Cash limit	Forecast outturn	Difference
DI1	Pay and general administrative expenses	55.2	51.3	3.9
DI2	Regional and industrial policy and research and development	108.1	99.4	8.7
DI3	Assistance to shipbuilding	37.9	15.6	22.3

There were only two cases where spending on a particular programme fell well short of the cash limit. A substantial underspend on cash block DI3 arose mainly because delays to the legislation nationalising shipbuilding held back the government's measures for assisting the industry. A large part of the underspend on cash block DI2 was accounted for by his department's programme for the provision of land and buildings, where there were unforeseen difficulties in obtaining suitable land, and prices, both for land and works, rose less than expected.

The only change in the coverage of his department's cash limits between 1976/77 and 1977/78 had been the termination of the limit covering all forms of assistance for the shipbuilding industry. As the house was informed on 24 February, a sum of £65 million had been set aside to assist British yards to obtain orders and it was this figure which now operated as the control ceiling in place of the cash limit.

The following programmes of the Department of Industry were subject to cash limits in 1976/77 and were so again in 1977/78:

Vote	
IV, 1	Provision of land and buildings
	Assistance for publicity
IV, 3	Industrial research establishments and Computer Aided Design Centre
	Industrial research and development contracts, grants and other support
Vote	
IV, 4	Technological and industrial sponsorship
IV, 5	Aircraft and aeroengine general R and D programme
	National space technology programme
	International space programme
IV, 7	Other support services
IV, 15	Central and miscellaneous services
	Civil defence

Multi-fibre agreement

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked how the government would represent the views of the Hong Kong government in negotiations on the future of the multi-fibre agreement when the Hong Kong government was opposed to the proposals of the EEC and the British government on the future of that agreement.

Mr Meacher referred to his answer to the member for Sheffield, Heeley, on 12 May, and said while the UK was responsible for Hong Kong's Gatt rights and obligations, the views of the Hong Kong government were in practice represented in Gatt talks on the multi-fibre arrangement by officials of the Hong Kong government sitting as part of the UK delegation.

Self-employed commercial agents

Mr Clarke asked whether the government intended to implement the recent directive of the European council of ministers on the status of self-employed commercial agents.

Mr Meacher said the council had issued no directive on this subject. A proposal for a directive was submitted to the council by the commission in December 1976 and was now before the European assembly and the economic and social committee for their opinions. The proposal was expected to be remitted for detailed discussion in a working party of the council later this year.

Exports to Uganda

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked for the value of United Kingdom exports to Uganda during 1976 and for the value of Ugandan exports to the United Kingdom during 1976.

Mr Meacher answered that exports were valued at £11 million fob and imports £32 million cif and said the information was published in the December 1976 issue of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*, available in the House of Commons library.

EEC exports of steel to US

David Watkins (Consett) asked about the United States steel court action against EEC remission of value added tax on exports of steel to the United States.

Mr Meacher replied that Britain was in close touch with her community partners on this question. Both Britain and the community as a whole had expressed to the US administration grave concern at the situation which could arise should the present appeal to the US Customs Court against the US Treasury decision be successful. 'We have said,' he went on, 'that we expect them to take any measures necessary to ensure that community exports suffer no disruption. We would certainly wish to consider with our community partners the possibility of raising the matter formally in the Gatt if the customs court decides against the US Treasury. The community is supporting the Japanese complaint to the Gatt council about action which the US has taken in relation to imports of consumer electronic products from Japan following a ruling of the customs court relating to remission of a Japanese commodity tax. It is also raising the US countervailing law in the Gatt multilateral trade negotiations.'

Mr Watkins also asked for the amount of United Kingdom exports of steel to the United States subject to an EEC VAT rebate; and what proportion of total steel exports it represented.

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries
of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries
of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State: Robert Maclennan

Mr Meacher said that steel exports to the United States were zero-rated under UK VAT provisions, but there was no special EEC VAT rebate. One hundred and twenty-one thousand metric tons of ingots, semi-finished and finished steel were exported to the United States in the first four months of this year, amounting to 9.5 per cent of total steel exports.

Registrar of business names

John Wakeham (Maldon) asked a number of questions about applications to register a business name at the Registrar of Business Names.

Mr Clinton Davis gave the following comparative figures:

	Mid-June 1977	Mid-June 1976	Mid-June 1975	Mid-June 1974
Outstanding applications for registration	22,530	460	160	Not available
Delay output of new registrations	250	490	400	Not available
Staff employed in processing new applications	10	16	13	16

As he had indicated in his reply on 27 May, it had recently become necessary to divert staff from work on new registrations to other functions of the registry and the adequacy of the staffing was being reviewed.

International plugs and sockets standard

John MacGregor (South Norfolk) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection when he expected the International Electrotechnical Committee proposals for a new international standard design of plugs and sockets to come before the government for a decision.

Mr Fraser pointed out that agreement had not yet been reached under the procedures of the International Electrotechnical Commission on complete specifications for a voluntary international standard for a unified system of electrical plugs and socket-outlets for domestic and similar purposes. Publication of such a standard could not take place before 1978. If a standard were published, the government would then take careful account of representations from the National Consumer Council and other consumer organisations and from industry and trade before reaching a conclusion on the possible introduction of the system. Any government proposals would be published and, depending on their nature, would be open for debate in parliament.

Price increases

David Price (Eastleigh), Neil Marten (Banbury), Tony Durant (Reading North) and Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) asked about price rises during the last year.

Mr Hattersley said that the year-on-year increase in the retail price index was 17.5 per cent in April and 17.1 per cent in May. This improvement resulted from the May increase of 0.8 per cent, less than a third of the increase registered the previous month and the smallest monthly addition to the RPI for almost a year. Over the six months to May the RPI, excluding seasonal foods, had increased by 9.5 per cent.

In reply to further questions from John Wakeham (Maldon), Ivan Lawrence (Bolton) and Tim Rathbone (Lewes) Mr Hattersley also said 'For what it is worth, the increase in the RPI, excluding seasonal food, over the last three months expressed at an annual rate is 19.9 per cent. However, I do not regard the three-monthly annualised figure as a statistically valid indicator of trends.'

Replying to Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale) Mr Hattersley said that since February 1974 the RPI excluding food had increased by 77.1 per cent.

Nationalised industry prices

Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon), Mike Thomas (Newcastle upon Tyne East) and Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked about the introduction of a price freeze relating to products and services supplied by nationalised industries.

Mr Hattersley said he had had no recent representations about introducing a general freeze on nationalised industry prices. Powers were not required to impose a freeze, but would be required to compensate the industries for any overall loss.

Wholesale prices

Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex) asked for the latest year-on-year percentage increase in wholesale prices (all items).

Mr Maclennan replied that the wholesale output price index had increased by 20¾ per cent year-on-year since May 1976, showing no change since April. The wholesale input price index had increased by 19¼ per cent year-on-year – a fall from the April figure of 22¼ per cent.

Price of tea

Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) and Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer if he would refer to the Price Commission the increase in the price of tea.

Mr Maclennan referred to the announcement by his rt hon friend on 30 March that he had asked the Price Commission to examine and report on prices, costs and margins in the importation, blending, packaging and distribution of tea, including the causes and effects of movements in world prices of tea. The Price Commission, he said, had not yet completed their report.

Inflation in Northern Ireland

James Kilfedder (North Down) asked whether the rate of inflation in respect of essential food, heating, lighting and rent had been greater in Northern Ireland than in the rest of the United Kingdom over the past five years.

Mr Maclennan answered that the general index of retail prices did not provide separate information for Northern Ireland, and there were no relevant official figures available for the price changes in the province. In the UK between May 1972 and May 1977 the prices of all food, fuel and light and rents, as given by the retail price index, rose on average by 148, 130, and 76 per cent, respectively.

Food subsidies

Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what assessment his department had made of the contribution of subsidies towards the stabilisation of prices to the domestic consumer.

Mr Maclennan replied that over the last three years the effect of food subsidies on the cost of living had varied. At their peak early in 1975 food subsidies were estimated to be saving 1.6 points on the retail price index.

Trade and commercial practices

Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he planned to introduce legislation giving general powers to regulate trade and commercial practices.

Mr Fraser replied, 'Not in the immediate future'. But he did think there was a case for taking general enabling powers to require registration or similar arrangements to cover individual sectors where this seemed necessary to protect the interests of consumers.

Consumer protection

Ioan Evans (Aberdare) asked what further measures were proposed to improve the protection of the consumer.

Mr Fraser said good progress was being made on a number of important measures. For example, the Unfair Contract Terms Bill, sponsored by the member for Peterborough, was well advanced in its passage through parliament and the Price Commission Bill was before the house. A number of further measures to protect consumers were under consideration including a new Consumer Protection Bill on which he was having consultations.

Price Commission Bill

Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford) asked about proposals for transitional arrangements under clause 21 of the Price Commission Bill.

Mr Fraser said his rt hon friend intended that the provisions in the present Price Code, which regulated price increases by reference to increases in costs, should come to an end by 1 August 1977 or as soon as administratively possible thereafter. His rt hon friend had therefore tabled an amendment to the transitional provisions set out in clause 21 of the Price Commission Bill to ensure that this had to be done by 1 October 1977 at the latest.

Tuesday, 21 June

Textile purchases

Doug Hoyle (Nelson and Colne) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish details, for the past three years, of his department's textile purchases, spun and woven, overseas.

Mr Cryer replied that as his department was not a major buying department, the statistics requested were not readily available, and he was advised it would be disproportionately costly to obtain them. No directives to buy British textiles had been issued, but nationalised industries had been encouraged to purchase their textiles from British sources unless there was a clear value-for-money advantage in purchasing overseas.

Mr Hoyle also asked the secretary of state if he would publish the action taken by his department to advise central government departments to purchase British textiles, in pursuance of his undertaking in the house.

Mr Cryer said that all purchasing departments were asked to ensure that orders for textiles, bearing in mind their importance to Britain's manufacturing industry, would only be placed overseas where there is a clear value-for-money advantage in so doing. He was satisfied that government departments did in fact make the vast bulk of all their purchases from the home market.

European regional fund

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked about the government's policy in relation to the European Commission's proposals on the European regional fund budget for 1977-78.

Mr Cryer replied that the commission's proposals for the European regional development fund after 1977 had just been put to the council. He was considering them.

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Footwear companies

John Garrett (Norwich South) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he had yet entered into discussions on planning agreements with leading companies in the footwear retail trade as recommended by the footwear study group.

Mr Cryer said that to date, his department had had exploratory discussions on planning agreements with a number of footwear companies, most of whom had retailing as well as manufacturing interests.

Civil airports

Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley) asked the Secretary of State for Trade when he intended to announce his policy on civil airports in the provinces.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that his rt hon friend hoped to make a statement in airports policy for the country as a whole in the late summer or early autumn.

Thursday, 23 June

Effect of CAP on food prices

Neil Marten (Banbury) asked for the method of calculation and the factors brought into the calculation when arriving at estimates of the effect of the CAP and the cost of living.

Mr Maclennan replied that the government's estimate of the effect on the average level of retail food prices of the increase in CAP support prices for the 1976-77 marketing year, including the UK transitional step, was announced by the former Minister of Agriculture on 8 March 1976. The figure given was 2 per cent. The effect of the increases agreed this year for the 1977-78 marketing year, again including transitional steps, was announced by the Minister of Agriculture on 27 April. The figure for the period up to 1 April 1978 was 1¼ per cent. The method of calculation, he said, was first, to estimate the sterling value of the increases in first-hand market prices of the commodities affected by changes in CAP support prices, and, secondly, to express this sum as a percentage of consumers' estimated total expenditure on food during the period in question.

Overseas Relatives Reunion Club

Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead) asked a number of questions about the Overseas Relatives Reunion Club.

Mr Clinton Davis said that R. J. Manners Ltd which, he understood, traded in the style of or managed the Overseas Relatives Reunion Club, was wound up by order of the High Court of Justice on 25 April 1977. Prior to the winding-up order, on the application of R. J. Manners Ltd, the court on 30 March 1977 made an order for the continuing employment of Mr J. A. B. Corscadden, chartered accountant, to act in relation to the company pending the hearing of the petition and he understood that he circulated all known club members. The Official Receiver, as provisional liquidator of the company was required to summon the statutory meetings of creditors and contributories and he had convened the statutory meeting of creditors to be held on 29 June 1977 at the Grand Hall, Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London WC2. Mr Clinton Davis understood that he despatched notices of the meeting of creditors and forms of proof of debt and proxy to known creditors, including Mr and Mrs Pinner and Mr and Mrs Dundon, between 14 and 16 June 1977. The documents sent to creditors included instructions and guidance for submission of their claims in the liquidation. According to present information there might be as many as 15 000 creditors with claims aggregating £1,150,000 and the unsecured creditors could only hope to receive a small dividend in due course. The realisation and distribution of the assets, and the claims against the company, including those by club members fell to be dealt with by whoever was the liquidator as a result of the statutory meetings of creditors and contributories, and he regretted that it was not possible at present to indicate when the liquidator would be able to pay any dividend. The Official Receiver's investigations of the affairs of R. J. Manners Ltd were continuing, he added.

'Halcyon Isle'

Rear-Admiral Morgan-Giles (Winchester) asked about the position with regard to the payment of outstanding wages to members of the ship's company of the 'Halcyon Isle' since the time of the Court Line crash.

Mr Clinton Davis said he understood that the court in Singapore had now delivered its judgement which, inter alia, recognised the crew members' rights. Solicitors instructed on behalf of crew members were, he gathered, seeking early agreement of their costs with other parties interested in the fund and the claims could then be paid.

Noise abatement procedures

Neville Sandelson (Hillingdon, Hayes ahd Harlington) asked about the progress of the trial of new noise abatement approach procedures at Heathrow.

Mr Clinton Davis said the trial began on 30 December last year and was intended to last for six months. However, in order to obtain more experience, particularly over the peak summer period, it had been decided to extend the trial until 31 March 1978 and, as far as was practicable, to aircraft approaching from the west. During that period a report would be made on the trial and a decision made on whether the revised air traffic control procedures could be confirmed as the standard method of operation.

Statistical inquiry into catering

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked within what margin of error the results of the statistical inquiry into catering being carried out by the Business Statistics Office for 1977 was expected to fall in respect of each question being asked.

Mr Meacher replied that realistic estimates could not be made until after the results were processed. It was possible to calculate a theoretic margin of error for VAT turnover based on the sample design, which was 0.021 per cent, but this was no guide at all to the realised margin of error because the latter would depend on the size and pattern of response rates. An indication of the reliability of the estimates would be published with the results of the inquiry.

David Mitchell also asked what charges were made by the Business Statistics Office to market researchers and to some catering trade users referred to in the written answer on 9 May in respect of the breakdown of turnover by commodity groups.

Mr Meacher replied that no charges were made by the Business Statistics Office in respect of the breakdown of turnover by commodity groups since it would be included in the published results of the inquiry.

Friday, 24 June

EIEC feasibility study

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked what progress was being made by the English Industrial Estates Corporation in carrying out a feasibility study in Calderdale, West Yorkshire, into mill conversion schemes.

Mr Cryer said the department had agreed that the English Industrial Estates Corporation should join with the Metropolitan Borough of Calderdale to undertake a feasibility study in Calderdale of a scheme to convert a mill to modern industrial usage. The corporation advised him that an initial meeting was held between borough and EIEC officials on 14 June when Halifax was chosen as a location for the study. There was a further meeting on 23 June to discuss the detailed arrangements for commissioning the study. The report would take about two months to prepare.

Film exhibitor's quota

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody (Crewe) asked if the level of quota of British films to be shown by exhibitors during the year beginning 1 January 1978 had been decided.

Mr Meacher replied that the Cinematograph Films Council had recommended that there should be no change in the level of exhibitors quota of 30 per cent for first feature films and 25 per cent for supporting programmes for the year beginning 1 January 1978. This advice had been accepted.

Retail price index

James Sillars (South Ayrshire) asked for the increase in the retail price index since the introduction of the government's pay policy in July 1975.

Mr Maclennan said that between July 1975 and May 1977 the retail price index rose by 31.2 per cent.

Regional employment premium

Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked what provision was made in the price code to allow companies operating in development areas to recoup the final effect of the loss of regional employment premium.

Mr Maclennan replied that in response to representations from industry last year, the present price code provided that the regional employment premium should be left out of account in price code calculations. Accordingly the loss of REP had no effect on permitted price levels under the code. However, the new investigatory powers which were proposed in the Price Commission Bill would enable the Price Commission to take into account all matters which appeared to them to be relevant when considering pricing proposals or decisions.

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European community news

Transitional period for industrial tariffs ends

Today, 1 July, is a significant date in the timetable for the adjustment of tariffs since the UK joined the European communities. From the first steps taken on 1 April 1973 there have been further progressive changes, and from 1 July the intra-community customs duties on industrial goods are completely abolished. At the same time, the final step is taken in the UK's adoption of the EEC's common customs tariff and the European Coal and Steel Community's (ECSC) unified tariff.

The same timetable for adjustment of customs duties applies to most agricultural goods, but the transitional period continues for a further six months for 'horticultural products' – mainly fruits and vegetables. For these products each of the earlier transitional steps has been a year later than for industrial goods, and the eventual abolition of intra-community duties and the adoption of the common customs tariff will take place on 1 January 1978.

Britain has already had free trade in industrial goods with Ireland, Denmark and the Efta countries (Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland) for many years. This now extends also to the six original member states of the European communities – with the difference that there are no exceptions to the abolition of duties on industrial goods within the enlarged community whereas the free-trade agreements between the communities and the Efta countries are subject to a number of exceptions and extended timetables for abolition of duties on certain 'sensitive products'.

Furthermore, relations within the community are those of a customs union, which goes further than a free-trade agreement in that duties on imports from third countries are in accordance with a common tariff (the common customs tariff of the EEC and the unified tariff of the ECSC). On the UK's adoption of the same external tariff as the rest of the community, Commonwealth preference is finally to be phased out but is replaced, with the exception of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa, by the Lomé convention and the generalised system of tariff preferences for developing countries. Likewise, the UK will be adopting the same tariff concessions or exemptions towards the Mediterranean countries as the rest of the community.

The end of the transitional period brings with it the benefit of a considerable simplification in the tariff. The main schedule of HM Customs and Excise Tariff for 1 July, which was issued to subscribers at the end of May, shows a reduction from 780 to 530 pages as a result of eliminating some 2500 subheadings required during the transitional period. The ending of the transitional period also brings a simplification of certain customs procedures.

Details of the precise effect of these changes can be obtained from any customs office. Some relevant references to the subject that have appeared in *Trade and Industry* over recent months are listed below (left).

Transitional arrangements

'Trade and Industry' references

'Transitional arrangements for industrial tariffs on joining the EEC', 18 November 1971, page 343.

'Final stages in UK transition to CCT: Changes in import duties in 1977', 24 December 1976, page 373.

'End of the transitional periods for inward processing relief', 25 February 1977, page 509.

'Compensatory levy – arrangements in intra-Community trade after 30 June 1977', 27 May 1977, page 392.

'Exporting to EFTA after transition', 27 May 1977, page 392.

'End of transition: EEC transit', 3 June 1977, page 439.

'Inward processing relief goods diverted to Community use', 17 June 1977, page 538.

'Inward processing relief: changes in law and procedures', 17 June 1977, page 539.

'Trade with EFTA countries after 1 July 1977', 24 June 1977, pages 581, 583-84.

'HM Customs and Excise Tariff – July 1977', 24 June 1977, page 581.

'Community transit: Anglo-Irish and Anglo-Danish trade', 24 June 1977, page 584.

European assembly elections bill published

Two alternative electoral systems – a regional list system and the simple majority system – are incorporated in the European assembly elections bill which was published on Friday 24 June. The two systems are set out in full to enable parliament to choose between them.

The bill, which provides for the holding of the elections in the UK, allocates the country's 81 seats between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It provides that European assembly elections shall be held on a regional list system, subject to a provision that would enable the House of Commons to substitute the simple majority system, with a single transferable vote system (STV) for Northern Ireland.

The proposed electoral regions for the regional list system are Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the economic planning regions of England, with a separate region for Greater London.

The basic concept is that electors would each have one vote which they cast for a named candidate in their region, but that the votes of all the candidates in one political party or group in a region are totalled, with seats being allocated in the region in accordance with the group's share of the total regional vote.

Last agriculture council of UK presidency

The main issues at the meeting of EEC agriculture ministers in Luxembourg on 20-21 June, the last agricultural council of the UK presidency, were agri-monetary questions, wine and the labelling of milk products, John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, told the Commons on 23 June.

Ministers had discussed the commission's proposal that regulation 974/71 should be amended so that a lower price could be taken into consideration for the calculation of monetary compensatory amounts (mcas). This was intended to avoid distortions of trade within particular sectors Mr Silkin explained. The commission had made clear that they intended at present to use this power only within defined limits and for certain products, including pigmeat.

Gavin Strang, Parliamentary-Secretary at the ministry, who represented the UK had welcomed this clarification and the commission's further consideration of the possible use of the European unit of account in the calculation of mcas. He again stressed that a reduction in the inequitably calculated mca on pigmeat would be justified. Some member states considered that the proposed amendment should be looked at again when the commission's revised proposals, on the reduction of agri-monetary differences in the longer term, came forward. The council would therefore reconsider it at a later meeting.

In order to meet UK needs, Mr Silkin continued, there had been substantial changes in the draft regulation on the marketing and labelling of milk products since it was first considered by the council earlier in the year. Mr Strang had made clear at the council that the UK would not agree to the present proposal on the labelling of ice cream. The draft regulation would now be re-examined with a view to further consideration of it at the next council.

Foreign ministers agree MFA mandate

A mandate authorising the commission to embark on negotiations for renewing the multifibre arrangement under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) was agreed by EEC foreign ministers at their meeting in Luxembourg on 21 June.

Finance ministers prepare for tripartite conference

Finalising preparations for the tripartite conference on employment on 27 June with employers and trade unions and preparations for the European council on 28 and 29 June had been the main purpose of the meeting of EEC finance ministers in Luxembourg on 20 June, said Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey following the council.

On the tripartite conference, Mr Healey said 'We do attach a great importance to these meetings, and I have pressed very hard that we should hold one in the summer of this year rather than towards the end of the year.' The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) had put in a very helpful paper which made it clear that the confederation was not looking for a 'bust-up' but to try to make some progress in the hope that the participants in the conference would influence one another a little bit.

From the ministers' point of view the central issue was to avoid protectionism, to accept the difference in the responsibilities of the stronger economies compared with the weaker economies, to accept that some elements of the problem required action by countries outside Europe like the United States and Japan and international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Ministers had to accept that they were baffled by some aspects of the problems; by this Mr Healey said he meant the relationship between employment and output, which most countries had come to regard as given, seemed to have gone wrong in a number of countries, including the UK, in the last year.

The relationship between investment and employment was a less simple one than was sometimes imagined, and in opening the conference, Mr Healey said he would be basically identifying the problems rather than proposing solutions. He also had the responsibility as chairman of summing up the meeting at the end of the day and drawing any conclusions from it. 'It's not our intention to reach decisions at the meeting next week and this is accepted both by the trade unions and by the employers organisations.'

On the preparation for the European council, Mr Healey said that the most important issue discussed was the community response to the request put to it at the last European council in Rome for action particularly on investment. The commission had produced a very interesting paper which commissioner Ortoli had presented to the council in the afternoon. This suggested that the community, as such, should borrow money which would be lent for specific capital projects of particular community concern which were not likely to be financed through any of the other community institutions. Unfortunately the paper had arrived only in the last day or two and the council had not been able to have a fully structured discussion.

Decisions which had been taken at the European Investment Bank meeting in the morning had been reported at the council in the afternoon. The most important element in this was that it had been agreed that enlarging the capital of bank next year should be considered in order to permit an expansion of lending to the level which the bank now thought possible, rather than waiting until 1979-80 which had previously been the view. The details of the proposal would be put to the council of ministers the following week.

Ministers had also held an exchange of views on the harmonisation of tobacco duty, Mr Healey said. There was still a very significant problem in reaching agreement on the relative weight of *ad valorem*, as distinct from specific duties, within the tobacco duty and the subject had been remitted to the committee of permanent representatives (Coreper) for further work.

On the banking directive, ministers made a little progress. There were three main areas of difficulty concerning the definition of banks – what institutions could be excluded from the scope of the directive. There, Mr Healey thought the council had made some progress. Ministers had made a little progress on the question of how to handle affiliates of central organisations (a matter of concern to the Dutch because they had a lot of small banking co-operatives which were very important to their agricultural policy). Ministers had also made a little progress on the most difficult issue the question of how long it was possible to defer the application of the directive in cases where there was an economic need to do so. This again had been remitted to Coreper for a report back in September.

Four major items discussed by foreign ministers

By agreement, the agenda at the meeting of EEC foreign ministers in Luxembourg on 21 June was restricted to four major items on which ministers were able to hold broad-ranging political discussions. Detailed matters which had cluttered some previous agendas were dealt with in committees and submitted to the council for approval not for full discussion, David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs told the Commons on 23 June.

Ministers, he said, had reviewed the preparations for the European council and agreed on the main items to be considered, although there was of course no formal agenda and heads of government would be free to raise whatever subjects they wished. Discussions were expected to continue on the subject of growth, inflation and employment which had been a key item at the Rome European council and on which heads of government would want to review the action taken in the community since their last meeting. Heads of government were also likely to have free ranging discussion on a number of international subjects particularly relating to the community's relations with the rest of the world.

The council discussed the external aspects of the fisheries regime, Dr Owen continued, including negotiations with a number of third countries and the arrangements for licensing third country fishing in the waters of member states. It was agreed to extend the existing presidency licensing system for a further three months. This would enable the main aspects of the internal and external regime to be looked at together over the next three months, starting with a special fisheries council on 27 June.

Ministers had reviewed a number of questions related to the interests of Mediterranean producers, which were of importance for the community's relations with other Mediterranean countries and for enlargement. This cleared the way for the next stage of discussion of agricultural questions in the negotiations with Greece, Dr Owen pointed out.

The council had also looked at a range of interlinked problems of nuclear policy. It was agreed to study further the question of community participation in the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation Programme. Discussions were to be continued with the Internation Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) on safeguards and renewed emphasis would be given to negotiations with Canada concerning the supply of Canadian nuclear materials.

In addition to these four agenda items foreign ministers looked at the community's relations with Uganda in the light of the violations of human rights occurring there and the council issued a short statement deploring the consistent denial of basic human rights to the people of Uganda and agreed to take steps within the framework of its relationship with Uganda under the Lomé convention to ensure that any assistance given by the community to Uganda did not in any way have as its effect a reinforcement of prolongation of the denial of basic human rights to its people.

This was the last meeting of foreign ministers under the UK presidency. Dr Owen chaired the meeting and Frank Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office represented the UK.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408. Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations, decisions and directive which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

General. Regulation (EEC) 1234/77 amending various common agricultural policy regulations following the consolidation of provisions on the community transit procedure (*Official Journal* L 143, 10 June 1977).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 1210/77 amending for the eighth time regulation (EEC) 2005/70 on the classification of vine varieties (*Official Journal* L140, 8 June 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1216/77 amending regulation (EEC) 1120/75 as regards the period of validity of the certificates of designation of origin of certain wines imported from Portugal (*Official Journal* L140, 8 June 1977).

Fruit and vegetables. The *Official Journal* L140, 8 June 1977 contains the texts of the following regulations:

Regulation (EEC) 1211/77 fixing, for the 1977 marketing year, the maximum price levels for tomatoes grown under glass.

Regulation (EEC) 1212/77 amending regulation (EEC) 604/71 fixing the list of representative producer markets for fruit and vegetables.

Regulation (EEC) 1213/77 fixing, for the 1977 marketing year, the reference prices for plums.

Regulation (EEC) 1214/77 fixing, for the 1977 marketing year, the reference prices for peaches.

Regulation (EEC) 1215/77 fixing, for the 1977 marketing year, the reference prices for table grapes.

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 1226/77 laying down rules for the sale of olive oil held by the intervention agencies (*Official Journal* L141, 9 June 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1287/77 on the putting up for sale of olive oil held by the Italian intervention agency (*Official Journal* L148, 16 June 1977).

Animal health. Directive 77/391/EEC introducing community measures for the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leucosis in cattle (*Official Journal* L145, 13 June 1977).

Seeds. The *Official Journal* L147, 15 June 1977, contains the texts of the following decisions:

Decision 77/392/EEC authorising the UK to permit temporarily the marketing of certain red and white clover seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/393/EEC authorising France to permit temporarily the marketing of certain hemp seed not complying with requirements of directive 69/208/EEC.

Decision 77/394/EEC authorising Germany to permit temporarily the marketing of certain field beans seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/395/EEC authorising Germany and Italy to permit temporarily the marketing of certain field pea seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/396/EEC authorising France to permit temporarily the marketing of certain birdsfoot trefoil seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/397/EEC authorising Italy to permit temporarily the marketing of certain tall fescue and white clover seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/398/EEC authorising France to permit temporarily the marketing of certain field beans seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/399/EEC authorising the Netherlands to permit temporarily the marketing of certain sheep's fescue seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/400/EEC authorising the Netherlands to permit temporarily the marketing of certain carrot seed not complying with requirements of directive 70/458/EEC.

Decision 77/401/EEC authorising Italy to permit temporarily the marketing of certain carrot seed not complying with requirements of directive 70/458/EEC.

Decision 77/402/EEC authorising Italy to permit temporarily the marketing of certain fennel seed not complying with requirements of directive 70/458/EEC.

Decision 77/403/EEC authorising Belgium to permit temporarily the marketing of certain sheep's fescue seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/404/EEC authorising Germany to permit temporarily the marketing of certain field beans seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/405/EEC authorising the Netherlands to permit temporarily the marketing of certain red clover seed not complying with requirements of directive 66/401/EEC.

Decision 77/406/EEC authorising Germany to restrict the marketing of seed of certain varieties of agricultural plant species (fodder plants) (*Official Journal* L148, 16 June 1977).

Corrigenda

Cereals and rice. The *Official Journal* L141, 9 June 1977 contains the following correction to regulation (EEC) 1124/77 (published in *Official Journal* L134, 28 May 1977) redefining the destination zones for export refunds or levies and for certain export licences for cereals and rice:

Page 54, annex I, zone I (d):

for: 'Youslavia', read: 'Yugoslavia'.

Page 54, annex I, zone V (a)

between 'Chad' and 'Cameroon' insert 'Gabon'.

Dehydrated fodder. The *Official Journal* L144, 11 June 1977 contains the following correction to regulation (EEC) 865/77 (published in *Official Journal* L106, 29 April 1977) fixing the production aid for dehydrated fodder for the 1977-78 marketing year:

Page 1 article 2 shall read as follows:

'Article 2

This regulation shall enter into force on 1 May 1977.

It shall apply from 1 April 1977'.

Silk and silkworms. The *Official Journal* L144, 11 June 1977 contains the following correction to regulation (EEC) 866/77 (published in *Official Journal* L106, 29 April 1977) fixing the amount of aid in respect of silkworms for the 1977-78 rearing year: Page 2, article 2 shall be read as follows:

'Article 2

The regulation shall enter into force on 1 May 1977.

It shall apply from 1 April 1977.'

Commercial policy

Textile imports. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L140, 8 June 1977 contains the texts of the following regulations:

Regulation (EEC) 1206/77 maintaining the interim protective measures with regard to imports into the UK of cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale, originating in India.

Regulation (EEC) 1207/77 maintaining in force the arrangements subjecting to authorisation imports into the UK of certain knitted or crocheted under garments originating in India.

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L148, 16 June 1977 contains the text of regulation (EEC) 1285/77 subjecting to authorisation imports into the UK of certain knitted or crocheted articles originating in Pakistan. Further information: Department of Industry, Chemicals and Textiles Division, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU, tel. 01-211 6128.

Slide fasteners. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L147, 15 June 1977 contains the text of regulation (EEC) 1268/77 extending the period of validity of community surveillance over imports of slide fasteners.

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L140, 8 June 1977 contains the text of decision 77/371/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to certain setts, flags and paving, hearth and wall tiles falling within subheadings 69.07 ex A and B ex II and 60.08 ex A and B ex II of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Customs regulations

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L142, 9 June 1977 contains the text of the following:

Regulation (EEC) 1177/77 on the conclusion of the agreement between the European Economic Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Austria on the extension of the application of the rules on community transit. Agreement between the European Economic Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Austria on the extension of the application of the rules on community transit. Further information: HM Customs and Excise, ICD 1, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 3190/3430.

Harmonisation of legislation

Value added tax. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L145, 13 June 1977 contains the text of the sixth council directive 77/388/EEC on the harmonisation of the laws of the member states relating to turnover taxes – common system of value added tax: uniform basis of assessment.

Copies of *Official Journal* L145 may be obtained from HMSO price 70p plus postage. Further information: HM Customs and Excise, Departmental Planning Unit, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 3512.

Motor-vehicle towing-devices. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L145, 13 June 1977 contains the text of directive 77/389/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to motor-vehicle towing-devices. Further information: Department of Industry, Vehicle Division, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN, tel. 01-211 5658.

EEC/Lebanon agreement

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L133, 27 May 1977 contains the texts of the following:

Regulation (EEC) 1109/77 on the conclusion of the interim agreement between the European Economic Community and the Lebanese Republic.

Interim agreement between the European Economic Community and the Lebanese Republic.

Protocol concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative co-operation.

Final act.

Copies of *Official Journal* L133 may be obtained from HMSO price 70p plus postage. Further information: Department of Trade, Commercial Relations and Exports, Division 1, Branch 3, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 3472.

ACP/EEC convention of Lome

Fishing Flies. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L139, 7 June 1977 contains the texts of the following:

Regulation (EEC) 1200/77 regarding the application of decision 1/77 of the ACP-EEC council of ministers derogating from the concept of 'originating products' to take into account the special situation of Malawi with regard to certain items of fishing tackle (fishing flies).

ACP-EEC council of ministers decision 1/77 derogating from the concept of 'originating products' to take into account the special situation of the Republic of Malawi with regard to certain items of fishing tackle (fishing flies).

Regulation (EEC) 1201/1977 regarding the application of decision 2/77 of the ACP-EEC council of ministers derogating from the concept of 'originating products' to take into account the special situation of Kenya with regard to certain items of fishing tackle (fishing flies).

ACP-EEC council of ministers decision 2/77 derogating from the concept of 'originating products' to take into account the special situation of the Republic of Kenya with regard to certain items of fishing tackle (fishing flies). Further information: Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-215 5750.

EEC tariff quotas for Turkey

An article in *Trade and Industry* of 21 January (pages 174-77) listed tariff quotas opened for 1977 and mentioned that certain other tariff quotas might be opened during the year. Following the second agricultural review of trading arrangements for agricultural goods under the provisions of the EEC/Turkey agreement, the following arrangements will apply:

Apricot pulp

A community tariff quota for apricot pulp of tariff heading 20.06 B II c) 1 aa) originating in Turkey is being opened from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1978. Council regulation (EEC) 1181/77 (published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.* L142 of 9 June 1977) provides for a community tariff quota of 90 tonnes with an initial UK share of five tonnes and a community reserve which any member state may draw on to meet import requirements above its initial share which may arise, in so far as the reserve allows.

Within the limits of this tariff quota apricot pulp may be imported into the UK from Turkey at a rate of duty of 9.5 per cent up to 31.12.77 and thereafter at 11.9 per cent until 30.6.78. Qualifying imports will be debited against the UK share of the tariff quota in the order in which any importer enters them for home use on or after 1 July 1977 and claims relief from duty. Customs notice 771, obtainable from HM Customs and Excise explains how claims for tariff quota benefit should be made.

Hazelnuts

Council regulation (EEC) 1182/77 (published as above) provides for an increase from 1 July in the 1977 community tariff quota for imports of hazelnuts, of heading 08.05G from Turkey opened by council regulation (EEC) 3055/76 (*Official Journal* L350 of 20.12.76).

The UK's initial share of this tariff quota has been increased to 2118 tonnes from 1974 tonnes and the community reserve on which member states may draw from 4000 tonnes to 4350 tonnes (*Trade and Industry* of 13.5.77, page 291 announced exhaustion of the tariff quota in the UK). The additional tonnage will be available to UK importers as from 1 July. Qualifying imports will be debited against the UK additional share of this quota in the order in which any importer enters them for home use on or after 1 July 1977 and claims relief from duty. (The rates of duty within the quota remain the same: 08.05 GI 2 per cent and 08.05 GII 3.2 per cent.

Inquiries about this notice should be made to General Division 2, Department of Trade, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ. Inquiries about how much a quota has been used should be made to the Tariff Quota Registration Unit, HM Customs and Excise, Kings Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7WE, tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 2570.

Copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* may be obtained from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, tel. 01-928 6977 ext. 365.

Additional concessions on products from Turkey

In December 1976 the council of association, set up under the EEC/Turkey association agreement, completed its second review of the agreement's provisions for agricultural products. The council concluded that the community should offer further tariff concessions on imports of agricultural, horticultural, and fishery products from Turkey. These additional concessions are to be implemented from 1 July by council regulation (EEC) no. 1180/77 in which the opportunity has been taken to provide a consolidated schedule of all the various changes which have been made in the agricultural sector (ie including horticultural and fishery products) since the original agreement was signed. The regulation has been published in *Official Journal* no. L 142 of 9 June 1977.

The Import Duties (Turkey) (Reductions and Exemptions) (Amendment) Order 1977 (SI 1977 no. 1046) implements the new concessions on horticultural products in United Kingdom law.

Copies of the order will be on sale shortly in HMSO bookshops. Inquiries: Rates of Duty – General Division, tel. 01-215 5488. General inquiries: Commercial Relations and Exports Division 1, tel. 01-215 3472.

Temporary suspension of the CCT

The Department of Trade gives notice that the EEC council adopted on 21 June two regulations which provide for suspension of the CCT (common customs tariff) on certain agricultural and industrial products. For the most part, the suspension will operate from 1 July 1977 and terminate on either 31 December 1977 or 30 June 1978.

In the main, the regulations provide for continuation of many existing suspensions of the CCT prescribed under council regulations (EEC) nos 1290/76 of 1 June 1976, 1450/76 of 21 June 1976, 2689/76 of 4 November 1976 and 2859/76 of 23 November 1976, but also introduce new suspensions.

Details of the legislation will be given in a later notice, following publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

Official publications on community matters

The following publications, issued during the period 2 May to 10 June 1977 can be ordered from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, quoting the standard book number in parentheses after each title. Prices do not include postage.

Parliament

Command papers

6775: European Communities No. 5 (1977). Agreements in the form of Exchanges of Letters amending Tables I and II Annexed to Protocol No. 2 and amending Annex A to Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Sweden. Brussels, 29 November and 8 December 1976. 8 pp. (0 10 167750 2). 25p.

6777: European Communities No. 3 (1977). Agreements in the form of Exchanges of Letters amending Tables I and II annexed to Protocol No. 2 and amending Annex A to Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland. Brussels, 29 November 1976 and 8 December 1976. 8 pp. (0 10 167770 7). 25p.

6778: European Communities No. 4 (1977). Agreements in the form of Exchanges of Letters amending Tables I and II annexed to Protocol No. 2 and amending Annex A to Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation. Brussels, 29 November and 8 December 1976. 8 pp. (0 10 167780 4). 25p.

6780: European Communities No. 7 (1977). Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic (with Final Act and Exchanges of Letters). Brussels, 20 September 1976. 26 pp. (0 10 167800 2). 50p.

6781: European Communities No. 6 (1977). Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic of 22 July 1972 with Financial Protocol and Final Act. Brussels, 20 September 1976. (The Protocols have not been ratified by the United Kingdom.) 38 pp. (0 10 167810 X). 60p.

6782: European Communities No. 8 (1977). Commercial Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Luxembourg, 19 October 1976. 12 pp. (0 10 167820 7). 25p.

6784: European Communities No. 11 (1977). Agreements in the form of Exchange of Letters amending Tables I and II annexed to Protocol No. 2 and amending Annex A to Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria. Brussels, 29 November 1976 and 8 December 1976. 8 pp. (0 10 167840 1). 25p.

6789: European Communities No. 9 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters amending Tables I and II annexed to Protocol No. 2 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic. Brussels, 29 November 1976. 4 pp. (0 10 167890 8). 15p.

6790: European Communities No. 10 (1977). Convention between the European Economic Community and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) concerning Aid to Refugees in the Countries of the Near East. Brussels, 20 July 1976. 4 pp. (0 10 167900 9). 15p.

6793: European Communities No. 12 (1977). Agreements in the form of Exchanges of Letters amending Tables I and II annexed to Protocol No. 2 and amending Annex A to Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway. Brussels, 29 November 1976 and 8 December 1976. 8 pp. (0 10 167930 0). 25p.

6794: European Communities No. 13 (1977). Agreements in the Form of Exchanges of Letters amending Table I annexed to Protocol No. 2 and amending Annex A to Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland. Brussels, 29 November 1976 and 8 December 1976. 8 pp. (0 10 167940 8). 25p.

6807: European Communities. Treaty Series No. 41 (1977). Decisions of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting in Council, opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Tariff Quotas and opening Tariff Preferences for certain Steel Products originating in Developing Countries. Brussels, 17 November 1975. 12 pp. (0 10 168070 8). 25p.

House of Commons papers and bills (session 1976-77)

16th Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation, etc, together with the Proceedings of the Committee. Social Security – Equality of Treatment. 14 pp. (0 10 285277 4). 35p.

17th Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation, etc, together with the proceedings of the Committee. Architects. 12 pp. (0 10 285977 9). 25p.

18th Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation, etc. Together with the proceedings of the Committee. Agricultural Price Review. 1977/78: Sugar and Butter. Amendments to Treaties: Criminal Law. 14 pp. (0 10 287177 9). 35p.

19th Report. Select Committee on the European Communities. Trade Co-operation. S/1553/76: European Agency for Trade Co-operation. 4 pp. (0 10 409077 4). 15p.

House of Lords papers and bills (session 1976-77)

22nd Report Select Committee on the European Communities. EEC Environment Policy R/2005/76: Water Standards for Freshwater Fish. 50 pp. (0 10 409377 3). 85p.

25th Report Select Committee on the European Communities. Group Accounts R/1129/76: Draft Seventh Directive on Company Law concerning Group Accounts. 72 pp. (0 10 411877 6). £1.60.

27th Report Select Committee on the European Communities. Fortnightly Report. 26 April 1977. (1) 10th Sift of EEC Proposals. (2) Annex. 16 pp. (0 10 413577 8). 35p.

28th Report Select Committee on the European Communities. EEC Energy Policy. 18 pp. (0 10 413677 4). 75p.

32nd Report Select Committee on the European Communities. EEC Environment Policy R/2641/76. Water Standards for Shellfish with Minutes of Evidence. 14 pp. (0 10 414077 1). 60p.

33rd Report Select Committee on the European Communities. Fortnightly Report, 10 May 1977. 1. Co-option, 2. Eleventh Sift of EEC Proposals, 3. Annex. 18 pp. (0 10 415677 5). 35p.

Commission of the European communities

Bulletin of the European Communities 10th Year No. 2, 1977. 100 pp. (0 11 936397 6). £1.20.

Bulletin of the European Communities No. 3, 1977. 10th Year. 126 pp. (0 11 936486 7). £1.20.

Bulletin of the European Communities. Supplement 12/76. From Education to Working Life. Resolution of the Council and of the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council of 13 December 1976 concerning measures to be taken to improve the preparation of young people for work and to facilitate their transition from education to working life. Report of the Education Committee. 64 pp. (0 11 936409 3). 90p.

Bulletin of the European Communities. Supplement 1/77. Equality of Rights for Commercial Agents. Proposal for a Council Directive to Co-ordinate the Laws of the Member States relating to (Self-Employed) Commercial Agents. (Presented to the Council by the Commission on 17 December 1976). 26 pp. (0 11 936483 2). 80p.

Graphs and Notes on the Economic Situation in the Community. 3 – 1977. 16 pp. Illus. (0 11 936440 9). £1.30.

A Study of the Evolution of Concentration in the Food Distribution Industry for the United Kingdom. Vol. II. Price Surveys. November 1976. 152 pp. (0 11 936473 5). £2.85.

A Study of the Evolution of Concentration in the Dutch Beverages Industry. November 1976. 149 pp. (0 11 936404 2). £2.85.

A Study of the Evolution of Concentration in the Danish Food Processing Industry. December 1976. 252 pp. (0 11 936451 4). £4.30.

Methodology of Concentration Analysis Applied to the Study of Industries and Markets. (By R. Linda.) September 1976. 156 pp (0 11 936427 1). £2.20.

Sixth Report on Competition Policy. (Published in conjunction with the 'Tenth General Report on the Activities of the European Communities'.) April 1977. 196 pp. (0 11 936472 7). £2.40.

Competition – Approximation of Legislation Series No. 27. The Law of Property in the European Community. December 1972. 306 pp. (0 11 936505 7). £5.15.

Spatial Pricing and Competition. June 1976. 62 pp. (0 11 936457 3). £1.25.

Results of the Business Survey carried out among Managements in the Community. 3 – 1977. 98 pp. Illus. (0 11 936413 1). £4.30.

Results of the Business Survey carried out among Managements in the Community. 4 – 1977. 86 pp. Looseleaf. Illus. (0 11 936488 3). £4.30.

Industrial Health and Safety. Guidance Notes for Safe Diving compiled by the European Diving Technology Committee. 58 pp. (0 11 936423 9). £2.88.

Report on the Development of the Social Situation in the Communities in 1976. (Published in conjunction with the 'Tenth General Report on the Activities of the European Communities' in accordance with Article 122 of the EEC Treaty.) April 1977. 236 pp. (0 11 936450 6). £2.40.

State of the Environment: First Report 1977. 262 pp. Illus. (0 11 936504 9). £7.40.

Statistical Office of the European communities

Monthly General Statistics Bulletin. 1 – 1977. 188 pp. (0 11 936411 5). £2.60.

Monthly External Trade Bulletin. 3 – 1977. 140 pp. (0 11 936444 1). £2.60.

Analytical Tables of Foreign Trade. CST – 1975.
- I Countries – Products. 401 pp. (0 11 936466 2). £20.00.
- II CST 0–4. 400 pp. (0 11 936467 0). £20.00.
- III CST 5. 216 pp. (0 11 936468 9). £20.00.
- IV CST 6. 453 pp. (0 11 936469 7). £20.00.
- V CST 7–9. 528 pp. (0 11 936470 0). £20.00.

(Special price £80.00 for purchase of Vols. I–V. (ISBN 0 11 936471.9).

Monthly Tables of Transport. 12 – 1976 28 pp. (0 11 936442 5). 85p.

Monthly Tables of Transport. 1/2 – 1977. 30pp. (0 11 936445 X). £1.15.

Monthly Tables of Transport. 3 – 1977. 32 pp. (0 11 936448 4). £1.15.

Overall Energy Balance-Sheets 1963-1975. 66 pp. (0 11 936449 2). £3.15.

Hydrocarbons. Monthly Bulletin. 1/4 – 1977. 16 pp. (0 11 936441 7). 73p.

Coal. Monthly Bulletin. 4 – 1977. 18 pp. (0 11 936432 8). 45p.

Energy, Monthly Bulletin. 4 – 1977. 12 pp. (0 11 936403 4). 35p.

Electrical Energy. Monthly Bulletin. 5 – 1977. 14 pp. Illus. (0 11 936487 5). 35p.

Tax Statistics 1970-1975. 122 pp. (0 11 936399 2). £5.00.

Agricultural Accounts 1976. Agricultural and Forestry Accounts. Unit Values. (With Addendum.) 194 pp. (0 11 936498 0). £7.80.

Monthly Statistics of Milk. 3 – 1977. 50 pp. (0 11 936426 3). £2.60.

Monthly Statistics of Milk. 4 – 1977. 50 pp. Illus. (0 11 936502 2). £2.60.

Monthly Statistics of Meat. 3 – 1977. 152 pp. (0 11 936412 3). £3.85.

Monthly Statistics of Meat. 4 – 1977. 142 pp. Illus. (0 11 936501 4). £3.85.

Monthly Statistics of Eggs. 2-3 – 1977. 78 pp. Illus. (0 11 936500 6). £2.60.

Statistics of Animal Production. 1976. 104 pp. Illus. (0 11 936499 9). £6.40.

EEC information

Free service for businessmen! The EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by answering general questions about EEC membership and by guiding them where necessary to more specialised information sources.
New customers are always welcome, particularly firms new to EEC questions.
The unit's address is:
EEC Information Unit,
Department of Industry,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET.
Tel. 01-215 4301 (six lines).

Overseas trade news

USSR agrees principle of fair carryings

Speaking to the annual luncheon of the British Shippers Council on 23 June, Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, said that the UK government had made it 'abundantly plain' to the USSR that unfair competition on cross trades in the shape of outrageous rate cutting was unacceptable.

Also unacceptable was the effect of Soviet fleet expansion on the western merchant fleets and western economies.

'We have no desire to exclude Soviet shipping from world trade – that would be an unreasonable and irresponsible demand. But we do insist that their protestations of competing freely and fairly should be translated into reality,' he said.

Mr Clinton Davis was telling his audience about the visit of Mr Guzhenko, the Soviet Minister of Merchant Marine, from 13 to 15 June.

He said he had welcomed the opportunity of discussing some of the critical shipping problems with Mr Guzhenko. 'And I can assure you that neither Edmund Dell, nor I, nor any of those with whom he discussed these matters have left him in any doubt about our anxiety on the bilateral as well as the multilateral issues affecting relations with the Soviet Union.'

The areas more readily amenable to agreement were explored, he said, for example joint opposition to unilateralism, on the safety of shipping and of seafarers, and the approach to the Unctad liner code.

Mr Clinton Davis said that a fair balance of carryings in the bilateral trade had been demanded and Mr Guzhenko had conceded this in principle and agreed that 'we should examine how we can move towards parity'. Mr Clinton Davis welcomed this and said that the Joint British-Soviet Maritime Commission had begun its consideration of how this objective could be realised.

The urgent need had been expressed by the UK for a re-examination of freight rates in the bilateral trades, the need for early implementation of promised improvements in turnaround and load factors, and in bilateral trades outside the joint line service, the requirement for the USSR to be more flexible, by being less insistent on their own trade practices of buying fob and selling cif, practices which, Mr Clinton Davis said, inevitably lead to commercial distortion.

'It seems to me,' he said, 'and this was the crux of my message to the Soviet minister – that we have these alternatives: confrontation (for which there are some powerful, if premature, advocates) or accommodation. I prefer the latter. But it must be accommodation on mutually reasonable terms. It is no use espousing principles. We must see action to implement those principles – and see it promptly.'

Mr Clinton Davis said he hoped that the work of the joint maritime commission and the work of its new offshoot designed to anticipate, rather than respond to problems in an ad hoc manner, and in which the views of shippers should and would be represented, would be productive. 'I hope that by the time I visit the USSR in response to the Soviet minister's invitation – probably in the early autumn – I will be able to observe some movements in the right direction.'

Mr Clinton Davis also dealt with the degree of involvement of government in shipping matters. There may have been a time, he said, when the role of government could have been regarded as minimalist, dealing almost exclusively with questions of the standards of operations and the safety of ships and aircraft. 'That,' he said, 'is no longer the world in which we live.' There was a variety of challenges to be faced: flag discrimination; moves towards unilateralism; and unfair competition through rate cutting either to prise open liner conferences or even to cripple them. All these demands, he said, inevitably led to a demand for countervailing measures.

It was because the UK government sincerely believed that such developments were inimical to the interests of UK shipping and shippers – but were prejudicial also to the long-term interests of the developing as well as the developed world – 'that we have vigorously asserted our belief in the need to establish sensible and orderly relationships between governments as the best way to aid the industries and interests they represent,' he said.

The government objected strongly to the current attack in the United States on the liner conferences. It believed that these litigious onslaughts, if successful, would provide a prescription for friction, and a recipe for disorder which, in an already turbulent situation, would be bound to damage the legitimate interests and objectives of the west.

'I know that the BSC are also concerned about United States' atitudes on the north Atlantic trades, so I think it follows both from this example and the Soviet problem which I mentioned earlier, that the interests of shippers, shipowners and government are interdependent. We need the expertise and help each can bring to these vitally important discussions of international shipping policy.'

In the long term, he said, shippers could not thrive without a viable shipping industry and the shipping industry could not survive unless it paid due regard to the requirements of the shippers. And the government could only perform its task effectively as a result, on the one hand, of regular consultation between the two sides of industry and, on the other, between the industry and government.

Romanian compensation claims

Under the Foreign Compensation (Romania) Order 1976 applicants have until 1 August to submit their claims to the Foreign Compensation Commission.

The order enables the Foreign Compensation Commission to receive and determine claims in respect of bonds, loans or obligations issued or guaranteed before 15 September 1947 by the Romanian government or by any other public authority in Romania which were beneficially owned by a UK national on 12 January 1976 and claims from persons who were UK nationals on 12 January 1976 in respect of certain debts and bank balances.

Those who wish to apply for compensation should write for application forms to the Secretary, Foreign Compensation Commission, Alexandra House, Kingsway, London WC2B 6TT, giving brief particulars of their claims.

New member for Sitpro

Mr P. C. Pinfield, cargo controller, British Airways, has joined the Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board (Sitpro). Mr Pinfield joins the board in succession to Mr W. D. Koster who has retired.

Mr Pinfield has 30 years experience in the air transport industry in Britain and overseas. He heads the cargo organisation in British Airways with specific responsibilities for sales and handling in the UK and for coordinating marketing activities on a worldwide basis.

Japan: A steadily growing market for imported kitchenware

Demand for imported kitchenware in Japan has been slowly but steadily growing in recent years says a report* published by the British Overseas Trade Board.

The report emphasises that imported kitchenware needs to be of high quality, durability and for unique applications. It also points out that the Japanese buy western-style products as much for a kitchen decoration as for practical utility. The demand for kitchenware is also influenced by the rate of new housing construction – and this is ex-

* 'The Japanese Market for Kitchenware' was prepared for the British Overseas Trade Board by International Business Information Inc, Tokyo. It is available to British manufacturers, price £5 post free, from the Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

pected to continue to grow in response to private demand and government encouragement.

Referring to distribution, the report says that the principal types of outlets for imported kitchenware at present are department stores and speciality houseware shops.

The report also contains information on tariff rates, importers, and prices for Japanese and imported kitchenware.

ECGD backs dollar loan to Yugoslavia

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed the repayment and availability of funds for a $3.5 million loan arranged and made available by Barclays Bank International to Gumineh Proizvoda 'Rekord', Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

The loan will help finance a $4.4 million contract awarded to Farrel Bridge, Rochdale, to supply machinery for a vehicle tyre factory at Rakovica, Belgrade.

Under the contract Farrel Bridge will supply the machinery via Tekig-Invest Export-Import, the Yugoslav state buying agency, acting on behalf of Fabrika Gumineh Proizvoda 'Rekord'.

Delivery of the machinery is expected to be completed by mid-1978.

This is the third ECGD-backed foreign currency loan arrangement to be completed following the announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 15 December last of the government's intention to encourage a switch from sterling to foreign currency financing for UK exports on medium and long-term credit.

New telephone numbers for Lagos high commission

The new telephone numbers of the high commission in Lagos (see *Trade and Industry*, 25 March, page 786) are 51630, 51631, 51632, 24774, 21842, 20980. The number of the telex machine is unchanged as 21247.

. . . and change of Sierra Leone address

As the British Trade and Information Centre in Siaka Stevens Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone has been closed, future correspondence on commercial matters should be addressed to the British High Commission, Private Mail Bag, c/o GPO, Freetown, Sierra Leone. Any inquiries should be addressed to Commercial Relations and Exports Division, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 3064/3331.

Selling medical goods to France

In the 'Further information' box at the end of the above article (*Trade and Industry*, 17 June, page 545) the first contact point should read:

Mrs C. Capon, Export Services and Promotions Divisions, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 507

Hints to business men booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on Algeria, Argentina, and Brazil have been published in the *Hints to business men* series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7146, or any regional office of the Department of Industry.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd, 8/10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel. 01-267 1285.

ECGD general purpose lines of credit

The table below lists lines of credit guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department under which there is capacity for further export business to be financed as at June 1977.

Departmental reference	ECGD ext.	Recipient country	Borrower	UK bank	Purpose	Loan value £m	Minimum single contract value £000's	Final date for entering into contracts
LC 499	281	Brazil	Banco Nacional do Desenvolvimento Economico	Lloyds Bank International	Capital and semi-capital goods and associated services and project business	20	100	6 May 1978
LC 381	7575	Czechoslovakia	Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka A.S.	Lloyds Bank	UK capital goods and associated UK services	2	5	30 June 1978
LC 747	7575	Czechoslovakia	Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka A.S.	Nat Westminster	UK capital goods and associated UK services	3	20	18 February 1978
LC 684	654	Finland	Bank of Helsinki	S. G. Warburg	Plant, equipment and associated services	1	10	10 October 1977
LC 680	654	Finland	Oy Wartsila A.B.	Scandinavian Bank	Capital plant and equipment	1.5	10	December 1977
LC 527	7575	GDR	Deutsche Aussenhandels Bank	Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd	Capital goods and associated services	2	10	31 October 1977
LC 618	7368	Federal Republic of Germany	Commerzbank A.G.	Lloyds Bank	UK plant, equipment and associated UK services	2	30	30 November 1978
LC 640	558	Guyana	Guyana National Co-operative Bank	Lloyds Bank	UK capital plant, equipment and associated services	4	15	30 April 1978
LC 685	7575	Hungary	Nat Bank of Hungary	Morgan Grenfell	UK capital plant, equipment and associated UK services	5	5	15 July 1978
LC 584	7389	Indonesia	Indonesia Government	Lloyds Bank	Construction work equipment and land reclamation machinery, capital equipment	20.5	200	15 August 1977 (supplemental in negotiation)
LC 386	7368	Irish Republic	Allied Irish Investment Bank	N. M. Rothschild and Sons Ltd	UK capital goods and associated services	2	10	31 March 1977 (extension in negotiation)
LC 692	7368	France	Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas (Paribas)	Nat Westminster	UK capital plant and equipment and associated UK services	1	30	22 October 1977
LC 511	7368	Irish Republic	Bank of Ireland Finance Ltd	Nat Westminster	UK plant, equipment and associated UK services	1	30	Extended to 31 August 1977
LC 638	7368	Irish Republic	Algemene Bank Nederland (Ireland) Ltd	Lloyds Bank	Capital plant, equipment and associated services	1	10	31 July 1977
LC 720	7368	Irish Republic	Industrial Credit Co	Nat Westminster	UK capital goods and associated UK services	2.5	30	31 January 1978
LC 756	7368	Irish Republic	Lombard and Ulster Banking Ireland Ltd	Lloyds Bank	UK capital goods and associated UK services	1	30	6 April 1978
LC 540	7368	Israel	Bank Hapoalim	Rothschilds	UK capital goods and associated UK services	5	10	7 March 1978
LC 636	7368	Israel	Industrial Development Bank of Israel	Warburgs	UK capital goods and associated services	3	10	30 June 1977 (extension under consideration)
LC 732	7368	Israel	First International Bank of Israel Ltd	N. M. Rothschild and Sons Ltd	UK capital goods and associated UK services	1	20	28 October 1977
LC 734	7368	Israel	United Mizrahi Bank Ltd	Manufacturers Hanover Export Finance Ltd	UK capital plant and equipment and associated UK services	1	10	9 February 1978

Departmental reference	ECGD ext.	Recipient country	Borrower	UK bank	Purpose	Loan value £m	Minimum single contract value £000's	Final date for entering into contracts
LC 687	471	Kenya	Industrial Development Bank Ltd	Morgan Grenfell and Co Ltd	UK plant and equipment and associated UK services	2	125	30 June 1978
LC 599	471	Kenya	Development Finance Co of Kenya Ltd	Manufacturers Hanover Export Finance Ltd	UK plant and equipment and associated UK services	1	25	24 April 1978
LC 557	339	Korea South	Korea Development Bank	Nat Westminster	Capital goods and associated services	2	10	5 July 1977
LC 669	7348	Korea South	Whahsin Tiger Leasing Inc	Lazard Bros	Construction equipment and capital/ quasi-capital goods	5	20	15 March 1978
BC(MC) 37/99029	595	Mexico	Petroleos Mexicanos	Baring Bros	Capital goods and services (for Pemex only)	20	10	1 August 1978 (polyethylene plant contracts)
							50	1 February 1978 (other contracts)
LC 106	7389	Philippines	Manila Electric Co Meralco	Schroder Wagg	Capital plant and equipment for electrical transmission and distribution	3	50	22 January 1978
LC 708	7574	Poland	Bank Handlowy	Midland Bank	Capital goods and associated UK services	10	10	24 March 1978
LC 661	7574	Poland	Bank Handlowy	Lloyds Bank	Capital plant and equipment and associated services	2	10	8 August 1977
LC 749	654	Sweden	ASEA A.B.	Hambros Bank Ltd	Capital plant and equipment	1	30	31 May 1978
LC 709	7474	Poland	Bank Handlowy	Lloyds Bank Int.	Capital goods and associated UK services	10	10	27 March 1978
LC 754	654	Portugal	Sociedade Financiera Portuguesa	Rothschilds	Capital plant and equipment	5	20	7 March 1978
LC 757	642	Qatar	Qatar Fertilizer Co (SAC)	Hambros Bank Ltd	Capital goods and services for ammonia and urea plants	4.4	30	17 May 1978
LC 505	7575	Romania	Foreign Trade Bank	Lloyds Bank	UK capital goods and associated UK services	7	5	30 June 1978
LC 741	7575	Romania	Foreign Trade Bank	Lloyds Bank	UK capital goods and associated UK services	5	20	28 February 1978
LC 649	505	South Africa	Standard Merchant Bank	Tozer Standard Chartered Ltd	Capital goods and services	2	15	31 March 1978
LC 659	505	South Africa	S.A.R.H.A.	Hill Samuel	Railway equipment	30	100	1 October 1977
LC 650	505	South Africa	French Bank of Southern Africa	Morgan Grenfell	Capital plant and equipment,	2	30	31 January 1978
LC 627	505	South Africa	Sasol (Transvaal) Bepeak	Hill Samuel	Capital plant and equipment	15	150	13 June 1978
LC 675	505	South Africa	Electricity Supply Commission	Hill Samuel	Capital goods and related services	4	30	5 October 1978
LC 576	654	Spain	Banco Int de Comercio	Kleinwort Benson Ltd	Plant and equipment	1	100	31 August 1977
LC 633	654	Spain	Banco Industrial de Catalina	Standard Chartered	Capital plant and equipment	0.5	10	30 November 1977
LC 382	654	Spain	Banco de Bilbao	Hill Samuel and Co Ltd	Plant and equipment	5	10	30 June 1977 Supplemental in negotiation
LC 710	654	Spain	Banco Hispano Americano	Midland Bank	Capital plant and equipment	1	30	1 September 1978
LC 718	654	Spain	Banca Catalana	Standard Chartered	Capital plant and equipment	1	30	31 March 1978
LC 589	654	Sweden	Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken	Scandinavian Bank	Plant, equipment and associated services	1	10	31 October 1977
LC 624	654	Sweden	Cotabanken	Lloyds Bank	Capital plant and equipment	2	10	31 July 1977
LC 717	654	Sweden	Svenska Handelsbanken	Midland Bank	Capital plant and equipment	1	30	31 March 1978
LC 553	654	Sweden	Granges A.B.	Lloyds Bank	Capital plant and equipment	1	30	15 December 1977 (Supplemental)
LC 617	654	Sweden	Kockums Industri	Scandinavian Bank	Capital plant and equipment	2	100	2 March 1978
LC 645	7574	USSR	Vneshtorgbank	Morgan Grenfell	Capital goods and associated services	10	50	31 October 1977
LC 646	7574	USSR	Vneshtorgbank	Lloyds Bank	Capital goods and associated services	10	50	31 October 1977
LC 523	7575	Yugoslavia	Yugoslav Investment Bank	Barclays Bank International	UK capital goods and associated UK services	8	10	31 July 1977
LC 626	7575	Yugoslavia	Stopanska Banka Skopje	Lazard Bros	UK capital goods and associated UK services	3	100	31 December 1977
LC 701	7575	Yugoslavia	Titograd Investment Bank	Lloyds Bank	UK capital goods and associated UK services	10	10	31 March 1978
LC 746	7575	Yugoslavia	Yugoslav Investment Bank	Barclays Bank International	UK capital goods and associated UK services	10	20	7 March 1978
BC(MC) 19/99030	471	Zambia	Roan Consolidated Mines	Morgan Grenfell	UK capital plant and associated UK services	2.080	10	8 March 1978
BC(MC) 2/99045	471	Zambia	Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines	Standard Chartered Merchant Bank	UK capital plant and associated UK services	4	40	4 March 1978

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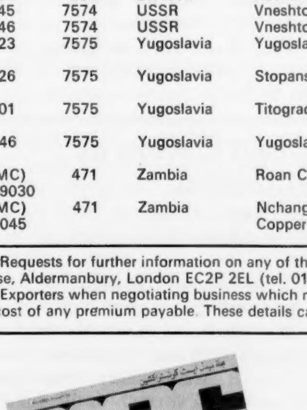
1 Requests for further information on any of these lines of credit should be made to the bank concerned or to Export Credits Guarantee Department, PO Box 272, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL (tel. 01-606 6699, extensions as listed in the second column).

2 Exporters when negotiating business which might be financed under one of the above lines of credit, should ensure that their contract price contains sufficient margin to cover the cost of any premium payable. These details can be obtained from the bank concerned.



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ENCIRCLE TI 540 ON PAGE 715 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Overseas trade exhibitions

Meat processing equipment brings home the bacon

From Sue Holmes, British consulate-general, Frankfurt.

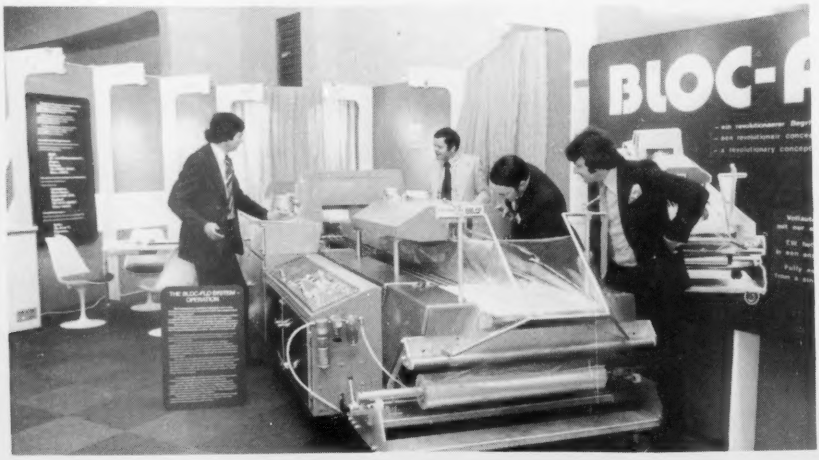
With 22 exhibitors, the UK was the strongest foreign contingent at Iffa – international meat trades fair – held from 5 to 12 June at the Frankfurt fair and exhibition grounds.

On a net display area of 42 000 m², 413 German and 131 foreign firms from 17 countries displayed wide ranges of slaughterhouse equipment, machinery and plant for conveying, handling, refrigerating, preserving, curing and processing of meat and meat products, packaging machines and materials, butchers supplies, sausage casings, spices, shop fittings and ancillary supplies. A record number of 75 000 trade buyers including about 15 000 from 72 foreign countries attended the trade fair. Held every three years in Frankfurt, Iffa has become acclaimed as the leading and most important specialised event of its kind in the world.

Eighteen British firms took part in a joint venture organised by the London chamber of commerce in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board. The stands of the British firms attracted buyers from all over the world and a considerable number of very promising inquiries were received. One company alone – exhibiting an automatic bacon packing machine selling at about £50,000 – stand to net orders worth about £1 million if only 20 per cent of these serious inquiries materialise into orders.

This was the situation with most of the British exhibitors, the majority of whom displayed expensive, sophisticated machinery of original design and an advanced technical standard for which actual orders are rarely expected to be placed on the spot. A considerable number of potential agents and distributors also came forward to express interest in representing the British firms in their respective overseas markets from New Zealand and Australia to the Middle East and South America as well as the European market. Good business is expected to develop in every sense of the word within the coming months to confirm the success of British firm's participation in the fair.

Part of the UK joint venture at Iffa.



Technology '77 in Israel

From Peter Bull, British embassy, Tel-Aviv.

Including the host nation, Israel, 987 companies from 18 countries took part in the fourth international technical fair, Technology '77, which was opened in Tel-Aviv on 7 June by the President of Israel, Professor Efraim Katzir. This year the fair concentrated on industrial machinery, electronics, instrumentation and environmental control systems.

The United States was strongly represented as were most of the countries of the EEC. With 25 exhibitors the UK had the largest, single, national pavilion which was organised by the British Overseas Trade Board. The companies mounted displays in the pavilion of textile machinery, environmental control equipment, machine tools, swop bodies, and industrial cleaning machinery. In addition to the British pavilion, at least another 83 British firms were represented at the fair, thus demonstrating that Israel remains one of the UK's major trading partners in the Middle East.

During the fair most British exhibitors received a large number of serious inquiries for their products; the machine tool manufacturers, in particular, reported the conclusion of firm and substantial business. Nearly all the exhibitors were in Tel-Aviv to support their local agents' efforts. Nevertheless, many of them were very surprised at the high level of interest in the fair from Israeli industry, who, it seems, are anticipating a new policy of active encouragement of investment from the newly elected government.

One of the British firms exhibiting at the fair for the first time – Multicore Solders – found its stand crowded with visitors throughout the exhibition. Mr Arbib, managing director, was completely overwhelmed at what he described as a 'fantastic reaction' to Multicore's solders, fluxes and associated items.

During the fair, the organisers had also arranged a series of symposia on such topics as: The economic relationship between the EEC and Israel; The quality of the environment; Technological training of skilled workers and graduate engineers; Textiles and fashion; Outer space research.

From the UK's point of view, the outstanding symposium was that organised jointly by the Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce, the British Overseas Trade Group for Israel, and the Israeli Shenkar College of Fashions and Textile Technology, at which a large audience of Israeli textile producers discussed current trends in this important sector of British and Israeli industry with senior directors of Marks and Spencer Ltd and other representatives of the British textile trade. The audience then visited the British pavilion to continue their discussions and to conduct business with the group of British textile machinery exporters.

According to the fair authority, about 60 000 people visited 'Technology '77' which closed on 15 June.

Surprised elation at Interhospital

From P. L. F. Edwards, British consul-general, Dusseldorf

The ninth German hospital day and the world's largest hospital exhibition, Interhospital (which traditionally take place together) were held from 7 to 10 June in Hanover.

There were 21 British firms forming a joint venture sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Health-Care Export Council at this specialised event and three British firms exhibited independently. Although the group was fragmented between three halls with one or two exceptions the exhibitors were pleased with their placing. Britain was well represented and was second largest foreign exhibitor after the United States.

There was a total of 794 exhibitors 119 of them from 13 foreign countries and five halls were used in the central area, covering a net display area of some 45 623 m² the

On the Hanover stand of Eschmann Brothers and Walsh, Colin Jones, senior product manager (left) is explaining the operation of the Eschmann DS300 machine to some visitors from the Netherlands.

exhibition attracted over 5400 visitors.

The focal display groups included: medical techniques, technical treatment equipment, large scale catering equipment, laundry and chemical cleaning units etc. This wide range of exhibits gave the professional visitor the opportunity to see the progress achieved in the world of medicine, hospital technology, treatment and care and new organisational methods in hospital administration.

Throughout the exhibition a series of conferences and general meetings were held mainly of interest to those concerned with hospital management.

A reception was given at the Hanover British military hospital officer's mess on 9 June for British exhibitors and local German businessmen and doctors, co-hosted by the consul-general Mr A. K. Mason and Lt. Col. H. A. Williams, commanding officer BMH.

At the conclusion of this comparatively short but never the less strenuous exhibition the feeling among the British group was that of surprised elation. For some British firms it was an adventure in exhibiting for the first time and for old-timers a reassurance that again it had paid off to show at this important event – especially as the venue was Hanover.

Without exception all British participants reported success often outstanding and it is difficult to pick out any 'star' of the joint venture, although special mention could be made of the Duty Line group with its most attractive wide range of made-up garments (male and female) for supply to hospitals of all types, and for industrial nursing. The Nottingham Medical Equipment group was delighted with a long list of world-wide inquiries as were Jacob White (Engineering) of Dartford.

These are only a few examples of the feeling among the British exhibitiors and this is borne out by the fact that all were sure they would take part in the next Interhospital, scheduled to take place in Düsseldorf in 1979.

Italians taking to the 'cuppa'

From Mrs G. Dei, British consulate-general, Florence

Once again the international foodstuffs exhibition held in Bologna alongside the general samples fair and the modern arts market from 28 May to 6 June, attracted vast crowds of 'Bolognesi' as well as visitors from nearby areas. Over 550 000 people visited the fair and in spite of the present negative economic situation with the inevitable result that prices had increased noticeably from last year, the amount of business carried out was nevertheless more than satisfactory.

BFEC joint venture

The British Food Export Council had, as usual, organised a joint venture with the British Overseas Trade Board in which nine British firms took part. Eight were manufacturers of a fairly wide range of sweets and whisky, plus Columbus Dixson, manufacturers of industrial cleaning equipment. The British firms in question were all exhibiting through their Italian agents, who were in charge of the respective stands, and they all confirmed that excellent business was done over the nine days, mostly over the weekends.

Whisky sells

The agents for Langs reported that they sold over 2.5 million lires worth of whisky over the counter plus a very satisfactory quantity of Websters teas (who the firm also represented), bearing in mind that this particular brand is, so far, little known in Italy and that Italians are, by and large, not very keen tea drinkers, although this beverage is becoming more and more popular.

Independent exhibitors

Seven firms took part in the fair independently on the stands of their Italian agents. Rowntree Mackintosh had a very attractive stand of their own to introduce a series of new lines of biscuits. They all declared themselves most satisfied at the results of their participation in this fair held in the city which is generally considered to be the capital of Italian cuisine and where everybody takes the greatest interest in good food and drink.

Gierek visits UK pavilion

Edward Gierek, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party (second left) touring the British pavilion at the Poznan international fair with Sir Norman Reddaway (right), British ambassador to Poland and Dr H. Sitarek, director of the fair. Dr Sitarek was closely involved with the construction of the new pavilion. An early British success at the fair was a contract worth £365,000 won by Stone Wallwork International to supply die-casting and foundry equipment to Poland.

Overseas trade export services

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Special Post Office service to boost exports

The Post Office is to widen the scope of its accelerated surface post service (ASP) by adapting it for overseas parcels. Already a limited parcels scheme is being tried out in London and may be extended to other parts of the country before the end of the year.

In the three years since ASP was introduced business has increased by 400 per cent and despite competition, it is cornering an increasing slice of the international freighting of British book and magazine exports and other printed material.

Accelerated surface post, the Post Office says, offers cost-conscious businesses a freighting alternative for bulk consignments of multi-addressed items. It is faster than surface mail and sea freight but less expensive than airmail and air freight. This is achieved by giving consignments surface-mail treatment in Britain and the receiving country, but using high-speed air transport in between.

Cuts delivery times

Compared with straight sea freighting the Post Office claims ASP cuts delivery times in many cases by several weeks. Magazines despatched by the service to Australia, for example, will be delivered 'door-to-door' in only about 12 to 18 days as against six to eight weeks by surface and sea routes.

Further information: circle 507

Giant research magnet goes to Switzerland

The Liverpool branch of Pickfords Heavy Haulage moving the two parts of a 150-ton spectrometer magnet, using their own road vehicles and Normandy Ferries for the door-to-door journey to Vern via Southampton and Le Havre. The magnet has been loaned to Cern, the European organisation for nuclear research at Vern. **Further information: circle 508.**

STEPHENS
PICKFORDS

... plus autotelex to Zaire and direct dial to Qatar

Britain's telex links with Zaire went automatic on 1 June, bringing to 108 the number of countries which 65 000 UK telex users can contact direct.

British firms have been making about 1200 telex calls a month to Zaire, through the operator, Major users include the coffee, copper, cotton, diamond, gold, tin and timber industries, as well as firms engaged in invisible exports.

Autotelex calls to Zaire cost 90p a minute with a one-minute minimum. They can be made to Zaire's telex customers with five-digit numbers beginning with 2.

Dialling 56 nations

Barbados and Qatar can be dialled direct by UK phone users, bringing the number of nations connected to Britain by international direct dialling to 56.

All 43 000 telephones in Barbados are available on IDD, using the code 010 1 809 42, at a cost of 75p a minute, reducing to 56p a minute in cheap rate periods. This compares with the £2.70 minimum charge for three minutes via an operator. IDD from Barbados to the UK is not yet available.

All 22 000 telphones on Qatar are available on IDD, using the code 010 974, at a cost of £1.05 a minute, reducing to 75p a minute in cheap rate periods.

This compares with the £3.60 three-minute charge for calls connected via an operator, itself reduced from £6.60 on 1 June. IDD from Qatar to the UK is not yet available.

IDD charges quoted are the approximate cost of a one minute call and are also subject to the addition of 8 per cent VAT.

Further information: circle 509

Pickfords opens continental branch

Pickfords Heavy Haulage has taken a further step in improving its through services for abnormal loads into Europe by opening a branch in Monster, Holland.

Further information: circle 510

Darby group forms export company

A new company, Darby Export Services part of the Darby Group in Birmingham, has been formed 'to help take the problems out of exporting'.

Darby Export Services offers a complete package to exporters new and old and aims to help manufacturers who have products suitable for export but who do not know how to begin.

The company will help select the right markets so that time and money is spent to maximum benefit and assist in choosing the appropriate terms of business, deal with the notoriously complex export documentation, and shipment from factory to buyer. Darby Export Services can arrange insurance, not only for goods in transit but also credit insurance, to ensure the exporter gets his money. The company also undertakes to negotiate the appropriate credit terms with overseas buyers and be responsible for the collection of money. Darby can offer to finance the business and, in most cases, pay the exporter at the time of shipment.

Further information: circle 511

News of services for exporters

If your company has recently introduced a new service for exporters – in, for example, the packing, forwarding, shipping, airfreighting, banking or translation fields – we would be glad to have details, plus a good black and white photograph where appropriate.

Items for inclusion in our fortnightly 'Export Services' feature should be addressed to the Overseas Editor, 'Trade and Industry', Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1.

Advertisers who wish to be associated with this feature should contact Mike White at T. G. Scott's on 01-242 6264.

Blue Funnel starts Italy-Middle East service

Blue Funnel Line, a subsidiary of the Liverpool-based Ocean Transport and Trading, is to start a new service from Venice and Trieste to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, from mid-July 1977.

The new service is being introduced because there is a growing amount of European freight being directed to the Middle East through Italian ports.

Venice and Trieste have been chosen to inaugurate the service because the company says apart from being modern containers ports, they are a natural outlet for Italian cargo. The ports are also conveniently situated for cargo from Austria, Switzerland and southern Germany.

Two Tarros-class ro ro ships, *Harp* and *Captain Paddon* will operate a 10-day service from Italy direct to Jeddah. These stern-loading ships will be carrying 20 ft and 40 ft standard and open top containers and also 20 ft flat rack (side loading) containers.

Through bills of lading will be offered to any inland destination in Saudi Arabia. The service will be provided for both shippers and forwarders and transit time from Italy to Jeddah will be seven days. Facilities for exporters owning refrigerated containers are available.

Further information: circle 512

UK firm enters USSR container trade

Following nearly four years of negotiations, United Baltic Corporation will be introducing from 29 June a specially ice-strengthened, cellular container vessel into the container service previously operated exclusively by Soviet flag tonnage between Tilbury and Leningrad.

This marks the successful conclusion to discussions which UBC have had with their ship-owning counterparts in Leningrad, the Baltic Shipping Company and with ministerial authorities in Moscow.

The company is hopeful in collaboration with the port authorities in Leningrad to see a regular 12 day service being ensured for the 138 trailer equivalent units container vessel *Baltic Osprey* which is now undergoing modifications in Lowestoft.

Further information: circle 513

Global Air Freight starts book service to India

From 1 May Global Air Freight started operating a consolidated air freight service for books to India. The advantages of this service say the company, for the book exporter allow savings to be made on the total distribution costs and at the same time successfully improve marketing methods.

With a transit time of under 10 days to the international airports of Bombay, New Delhi, Calcutta and Madras, an exporter can process and deliver an order to his Indian customer within 14 days of it being raised. This allows stock levels to be reduced and will further result in the Indian distributors carrying a much wider range including minority titles.

A feature of this service is that a proof of delivery can be obtained on behalf of the suppliers immediately the consignment arrives at its destination. This will ensure prompt settlement of payment.

There is no minimum weight for a consignment; Global's rates include collection from PBDS at Neasden, and is pre-telexed advice on departures, flight numbers, and estimated times of arrival so that the passage of a consignment can be checked at any time.

Further information: circle 514

LBI opens Seoul branch

Lloyds Bank International has opened a full banking branch in Seoul. The new branch is able to provide a complete range of banking services and will be responsible for the development of the Lloyds Bank group's international operations in the Republic of Korea.

The branch is situated in the Dong-Bang Building, 250, 2-ka, Tae Pyung-ro Chung-ku, Seoul, tel. 28-6950/3.

Further information: circle 515

Financial quarterly published

The latest issue of the Bankers Research Unit quarterly export finance service has just been published.

The BRU export finance service provides a simple source of up-to-date information which, the unit says, is difficult and expensive to collect. It includes details of the terms at which exports are financed and insured in the nine major exporting countries of the world.

Bankers Research Unit is the research arm of the banking division of the Financial Times Ltd and is a specialist publishing house in the field of banking and finance. Information is researched both by the unit and outside experts and is published in the form of banking studies, reference volumes and news letters.

The service comes in a ring binder with an annual and quarterly up-dating.

Further information: circle 516

New container ship joins Medtainer Line

Medtainer Line's fleet will be increased when the newest Gulf class ship, *Gulf Clipper* joins on 30 June.

This newly-built, fully-cellular and self-sustaining container ship is from the same stable as her sisterships *Gulf Ranger* and *Gulf Lancer* and, similarly, she has a carrying capacity of some 600 trailer equivalent units. The ship will also operate on the line's Red Sea and Gulf services to Aqaba, Jeddah, Sharjah, Doha, Umm Said, Damman and Kuwait.

Further information: circle 517

Educating children abroad

A new service, a full educational advisory service, for companies, is being offered by the Parents' National Educational Union (PNEU).

Pneu is an educational charity. It provides a comprehensive range of services to help families and employers overcome the difficulties of educating children abroad.

Under the new service Pneu can provide advice and detailed specifications on all matters relating to the setting up of a company school, from the recruitment of staff, the supply of appropriate teaching materials and core syllabuses.

Company employees transferred to more isolated locations can without difficulty teach their children themselves from the Pneu syllabus.

Further information: circle 518

Improvements in the Newhaven-Dieppe service

British Rail Sealink has announced that, in agreement with French Railways, motor-vessel *Valencay* on the Newhaven-Dieppe service is to be converted to carry more road haulage vehicles and cars.

The conversion of the *Valencay* will be similar to the modifications already carried out to the *Villandry* which now carries 18 road haulage vehicles or 180 cars or a mix of the two. The *Valencay* will be provided with a bow door enabling vehicles to drive through the ship, making for easier loading and unloading.

Sealink says there has been an increase on the Newhaven-Dieppe services to mid-May this year – 3300 road haulage vehicles and almost 1000 cars – compared with the same period last year.

The three ships on this route, *Senlac*, *Villandry* and *Valencay*, will be able to carry 30 per cent more ro ro vehicles and, with the possibility of revised schedules in the summer of 1978 to give more sailings, the service, say Sealink, will prove very attractive to road haulage operators and motorists.

Also, improvements to Newhaven's terminal facilities are planned in conjunction with the local authority. Costing £500,000, the improvements include an additional three-acre standage area with road access for road haulage vehicles and the provision of a new passenger gangway between ship and shore.

Further information: circle 519

Overseas trade country data

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Argentina

Text and duty amendments for certain goods in chapter 85. Resolution 231/77 published in the *Boletin Oficial*, 14 April, amends the text and import duties on certain electronic goods for radio broadcasting equipment, as follows:

Tariff no.	Description	Rate of duty (*ad valorem* cif)
85.18.01.19	Vacuum capacitors, encased in glass or ceramic material (text and duty amended)	5%
85.21.01.01	Electronic valves for rf, for use in transmission, or in industrial equipment, for frequencies up to 1000 Mc/s and/or for output power in the CCS or BLU class of up to 30 kW; except ceramic valves of more than 400 W plate dissipation (text only amended)	
The following sub-headings are introduced and incorporated:		
85.18.01.20	Water-cooled capacitors, with import licence from the Secretaria de Estado de Desarrollo Industrial	5%
85.19.03.31	Sockets for use in electronics, with import licence from the Secretaria de Estado de Desarrollo Industrial	5%
85.19.04.13	Carbon resistors for use in electronics, with import licence from the Secretaria de Desarrollo Industrial	5%
85.21.03.06	Low-power transistors with thermal resistance junction-box greater than 15°C W, or unspecified, for the manufacture of professional communications equipment, with import licence from the Secretaria de Estado de Desarrollo Industrial	5%
85.21.03.07	Power transistors with thermal resistance junction-box of 15°C W or less, for the manufacture of professional communications equipment, with import licence from the Secretaria de Estado de Desarrollo Industrial	5%
85.21.03.08	Uni-directional Thyristors of more than 40 A mean current	5%

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Duty amendments. By resolution 296/77, 9 May, the Ministry of Economy corrects a number of errors which occurred in Resolution 113/77. The corrected duties are as follows:

15.04.00.01 60 per cent; 15.04.00.99 60 per cent; 15.05.00.01 60 per cent; 15.05.00.10 60 per cent; 15.05.00.99 60 per cent; 15.07.11.00 60 per cent; 15.08.00.01 60 per cent; 15.08.00.99 60 per cent; 15.09.00.00 60 per cent; 15.10.01.01 20 per cent; 15.10.01.03 20 per cent; 15.10.01.99 60 per cent; 15.11.00.00 60 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Modification of tariff heading. Resolution 299/77 of the Ministry of Economy, modifies the wording of tariff heading 57.10.00.01 as follows:

Tariff heading	Description
57.10.00.01	Jute sacking from 137 to 310 gr m^2 up to 1.05 m wide, solely for packaging of cereals, potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, carrots, yerba, salt, fertilisers, fruit, balanced feeds, beans, rice and oleaginous foods.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Australia

Protection of spectacle frames and sunglasses. The Department of Industry and Commerce in Australia has received a request for temporary protection against imports of spectacle and sunglass frames falling within tariff sub item 90.03.100 and sunglasses falling within sub item 90.04.100.

Requests for temporary protection are initially received and considered by the department and at a subsequent stage may be referred to the Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report within 30 days of the reference. Any temporary protection which may be awarded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of holding action pending an inquiry into the longer-term needs of the domestic industry.

Interested parties should send their views to reach the Department of Industry and Commerce, Canberra, ACT 2600, by no later than 4 July 1977.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 1007/77

Tariff quotas, thick plywood. *Trade and Industry*, 3 September 1976, reported the introduction of a tariff quota for imports into Australia of thick plywood, ie exceeding 5.5 mm but not exceeding 23 mm.

This quota was due to expire on 30 June, but it has now been announced that a quota of 10 000 m^3 will operate from 1 July to 30 June 1978. The duties for imports within the quota are unchanged, but for imports in excess of the quota level the following rates will apply (tariff heading 44-15.119):

General rate: 44 per cent, and $A 0.50 per sq m for each mm in thickness in excess of 5.5 mm; or, if higher, $A 0.0565 per sq m and $A 0.5102 per sq m for each mm in thickness in excess of 5.5 mm.
Preference rate: 24 per cent., and $A 0.50 per sq m for each mm in thickness in excess of 5.5 mm; or, if higher, $A 0.0303 per sq m, and $A 0.5055 per sq m for each mm in thickness in excess of 5.5 mm.

The ruling excludes plywood of New Zealand origin, high moisture-resistant plywood of Papua New Guinea origin entitled to by-law admission and plywood faced with western red cedar or california redwood.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Temporary protection of men's overalls. The Australian government has received a request for temporary protection against the import of men's overalls, coveralls and the like (tariff item 61.01.900).

Requests for temporary protection are initially considered by the department concerned and at a later stage they may be referred to the Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report within 30 days of the date of reference. Any temporary protection which may be awarded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of a holding action pending consideration of the general question of protection for the indigenous industry.

The Department of Industry and Commerce, Canberra, Act 2600, has asked that interested parties who wish to submit comments on this request for temporary protection should ensure that they are despatched in time to reach the department by 8 July.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 870/77

Barbados

Increases in consumption tax and motor vehicle customs duty. In the Barbados budget speech, 15 April, the Minister of Finance announced increases in the rates of consumption tax payable on imported goods classified under the following tariff numbers:

06.04; 22.05.2; 22.05.9; 22.06; 22.09.2; 22.09.6; 22.09.8; 22.09.99; 23.07.1; 24.02.2 27.05; 32.09.9; 33.06.1; 33.06.9; 34.01; 34.02; 37.02; 42.02; 48.05; 67.02; 71.16 84.12; 84.25.1; 85.06; 85.12; 87.09; 87.10; 90.07; 90.08; 91.01 91.02; 92.11; 93.02; 93.04; 93.05; 97.04; 97.05; 98.10; 98.11

In the same speech he also announced that the rate of customs duty levied on imported motor vehicles had been increased from 40 per cent to 45 per cent of the cif value.

The motor vehicle tax was raised to 30 per cent of the cif value.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Import licensing of wall plaques and figurines. The Barbados authorities have announced that import licences are now required to import figurines and wall plaques of any material.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Brazil

Reference prices. Customs Policy Council resolution 2958, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 20 May, raised the reference price on nuts and bolts, under tariff heading 73.32.03.00, from US$ 3.70 per kg to US$ 6.15 per kg.

Customs Policy Council resolution 2956 also published in the *Diario Oficial*, 20 May, established a reference price on liquid curd rennin, under tariff 29.40.10.00, of US$ 5.10 per kg.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 467/474.

Canada

Import quotas on clothing. On 16 June, the Canadian Minister for Industry, Trade and Commerce announced that the import quotas on clothing (first imposed at the end of November 1976) would continue until 30 June 1978. *Trade and Industry*, 17 June, reported that the quotas would continue for the first quarter of 1978.

This action has been taken until recommendations of the Textile and Clothing Board in the report tabled on 16 June have been studied by the Canadian government. Decisions on these will be announced in due course.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.

Tariff changes. Following are details of the tariff changes mentioned in a notice published in *Trade and Industry*, 24 June.

Tariff item	Description	Expiry date	British preferential tariff	Most favoured nation tariff	General tariff
15212-1	Water phase essences of citrus fruits, being the volatiles produced from the concentration of citrus fruit juices, for use in the manufacture of citrus fruit juices	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	25%
34745-1	Sheet, strip or plate of titanium or titanium alloys, cold-rolled for use in Canadian manufactures	30 Jun 1978	Free	Free	25%
37935-1	Stainless steel flats, bars, rods, sheets, strips or wire, cold-rolled or drawn, type 406, for use in the manufacture of edgewound resistors	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	25%
38260-1	Strip of iron or steel, made to specifications from AISI C1075 to C1095 inclusive, cold-rolled, hardened and tempered, not less than 0.004 in. nor more than 0.025 in. in thickness, and not less than ⅛ in. nor more than 1 in. in width, for use in the manufacture of measuring rules and tapes	31 Oct 1980	Free	Free	25%
40160-1	Silver-plated or nickel-plated copper wire or strand for use, in the manufacture of insulated high temperature wire or cable	28 Feb 1978	7½%	7½%	25%
42768-1	Engines, axle assembles, torque converters, transmissions, and parts thereof, for use in the manufacture of machines commonly known as high-lift loaders and front-end loaders or tractor shovels	28 Feb 1980	Free	Free	30%
42840-1	Rotary natural gas engines, having a brake horsepower from 500 to 1000, and reciprocating natural gas engines, of a class or kind not made in Canada, for use in the manufacture of self-contained compressors	31 Oct 1977	Free	Free	30%
43867-1	Welded steel tubing, aluminised, over 4 in. in outer diameter, for use in the manufacture of exhaust systems for motor vehicles	30 Jun 1978	Free	Free	30%
43875-1	Polyethylene type sheet, of ultra high molecular weight, not greater than ⅛ in. in thickness, for use in the manufacture of gas tank shields used as original equipment in the manufacture of motor vehicles	31 Oct 1977	Free	Free	25%
43878-1	Woodgrain and leathergrain embossed polyvinyl chloride film for use in the manufacture of interior trim used as original equipment in the manufacture of motor vehicles	31 Oct 1977	Free	Free	25%
44301-1	Shock resisting thermal glass-ceramic tops, decorated or not, for use in the manufacture of smooth-top electric ranges	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	30%
44302-1	Forced draft gas burner units for use in the manufacture of mobile home furnaces	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	30%
44511-1	Electric motors, direct current, rated at not less than 20 volts nor more than 75 volts, for use in the manufacture of industrial trucks commonly known as 'fork lift' or 'lift' trucks	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	37½%
44517-1	On-load tap changers with a current rating exceeding 1300 amperes for use in the manufacture of electric transformers	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	37½%
44579-1	Transistors and other semiconductor devices for use in the manufacture of electric and electronic goods, but not including any of the following hybrids, linear audio amplifiers with a power rating of 20 mW or less, diodes and silicon-controlled rectifiers with a current rating greater than 100 amperes, non-memory metal oxide semiconductor devices, diodes and voltage multipliers				

British control system for Norwegian television

A new television routing control system has been developed by a leading British electronics manufacturer for NRK, Oslo, the Norwegian broadcasting authority. Control of the routing of television sound and pictures to, from and between video and telecine machines is provided by a switcher seen here under test at Prowest Electronics of Windsor,

Tariff item	Description	Expiry date	British preferential tariff	Most favoured nation tariff	General tariff
	with a current rating of 1 ampere or less together with a voltage rating greater than 1 kV, transistors in TO-92 package	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	25%
44585-1	Parts and materials for use in the manufacture of electric lamps, namely: filaments, cathodes, metal foil, lead wires	31 Oct 1977	Free	Free	Free
44588-1	Copper-clad laminates for use in the manufacture of printed circuit boards	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	25%
60450-1	Lambskin, sheepskin or pigskin leathers for use as linings in the manufacture of footwear	30 Jun 1978	Free	Free	27½%
68910-1	Alumino-silicate fibres, for use in the manufacture of exothermic riser toppings or riser sleeves used in the casting of iron or steel	30 Jun 1978	Free	Free	25%
86400-1	Alkyl thiols, N,N-bis (2-hydroxyethyl) alkyl amines; antimony oxide, ferrous sulphate, heptahydrate; inorganic pigments; magnesium oxide; surface-active agents; synthetic waxes; all the foregoing, of a kind not produced in Canada, for use in the manufacture of ABS resins or ABS moulding compositions	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	15%
91510-5	n-Hexyl n-octyl n-decyl alcohol, having a maximum of 7% n-hexyl alcohol content, for use in the manufacture of ester plasticisers to be incorporated into polyvinyl chloride compounds used exclusively in the manufacture of electrical cable and wire	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	25%
92902-4	Crude dichlorobenzene for use in Canadian manufactures	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	25%
92922-3	Ethylenediamine for use in the manufacture of ethylenediaminetetraacetic and its sodium and calcium salts and ethylene bis stearamide	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	25%
93901-7	Polycaprolactam for use in the manufacture of monofilament fishing line	28 Feb 1978	Free	Free	20%
93902-88	Ski bases consisting of polyethylene resin, woven glass fibres and hardened protein binder in laminated sheet form, for use in the manufacture of cross country skis	28 Feb 1978	10%	10%	25%

The following additional items will be admitted free of duty until 28 February 1978, if entitled to admission under the British preferential or the most-favoured nation tariff:

92828-6	Zirconium oxide for use in polishing spectacle and eyeglass lenses
92852-3	Cerium oxide for use in polishing spectacle and eyeglass lenses
92915-5	Oxalic acid for use in the flotation of columbium ore
93903-84	Uncoated, regenerated cellulose film, not less than 58 in. in width, for use as a carrier release film in the manufacture of glass fibre panels
92902-1	delete vinylchloride(monochlorethylene)
92915-1	delete Dicycholexyl phthalate

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 455/456/457.

Chile

Temporary introduction of specific duties for certain wheat products. Ministry of Finance decree 481 published in the *Diario Oficial*, 11 June, introduces specific duties (expressed as Chilean 'peso' currency cents per kilogram) which will remain in force for two months from the above date and affecting imports into Chile of the following items, in addition to their existing *ad valorem* rates of duty:

Tariff no.	Commodity	Specific duty $*	*Ad valorem* duty
10.01.01.99	Wheat and meslin, others	0.36 per kg	13%
11.01.01.00	Wheat and meslin flour	0.32 per kg	18%
11.02.01.01	Cereal groats and meals made of wheat and meslin	0.04 per kg	20%
11.08.01.01	Wheat starches	0.24 per kg	20%
11.09.00.00	Wheat gluten, whether or not dried	0.10 per kg	13%
19.03.00.00	Macaroni, spaghetti and similar products	0.23 per kg	20%
19.07.00.00 (89)	Bread, ships' biscuits and other ordinary bakers' wares, not containing added sugar, honey, eggs, fats, cheese or fruit – others	0.22 per kg	18%
19.08.00.00	Pastry, biscuits, cakes and other fine bakers' wares, whether or not containing cocoa in any proportion	0.18 per kg	20%

* Chilean currency ('peso').

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Japan

Pharmaceuticals. The Pharmaceutical Affairs Council have made a recommendation to the Minister of Health and Welfare that the manufacture, import and marketing of drugs containing pyrine type chemicals intended for over the counter sale should be banned. Official notification banning the products is expected to be issued shortly and a further notice will be published.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 420.

Kuwait

Import regulations. The Ministry of Communications has announced in the *Official Gazette* 1141 of 5 June 1977 that the importation of all types of wireless systems is strictly prohibited, except under licence from the ministry.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/420.

Nigeria

Customs tariff changes. Legal notice 25 of 1977 published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria *Official Gazette* of 27 April 1977 amends with effect from that date schedule 1 to the customs tariff. The following tariff numbers are affected:

48.13, 57.11C, 57.12A and B, 59.01, 73.13C, 75.02A, 76.16C, 85.20B and C, 98.08

Paragraph 35 of schedule 2 should be amended as follows:

Machinery and equipment imported exclusively for use in processing agricultural products by a user approved in that behalf by the Commissioner.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473/462/472/471.

Portugal

Import surcharge. Portuguese *Diario da Republica* 129, 3 June, published law 34/77, which extends the 60 per cent import surcharge to various goods which were previously subject to 30 per cent surcharge.

Goods affected by these changes fall in CCCN chapters 11, 12, 19, 21, 39, 44, 45, 48, 58, 69, 70, 73, 82, 83, 87, 90, 91, 92, 96, 98.

Inquiries, giving CCCN headings: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs tariff application list 15/77, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 24 June, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

1 Steering wheels for motor vehicles, classifiable under tariff subheading 87.06.90.90 including those imported with unassembled motor vehicles classifiable under tariff subheadings 87.02.15, 87.02.22, 87.02.24 and 87.02.60 and with unassembled chassis for light goods vehicles, classifiable under tariff subheading 87.04.25.
2a Solid drawn iron or steel wire, of a diameter not exceeding 2 mm, plated, coated, or clad with copper, classifiable under tariff subheadings 73.14.90.90 and 73.14.95.90;
b Solid drawn wire of alloy steel (excluding stainless steel), of a diameter not exceeding 2 mm, plated, coated or clad with copper, classifiable under tariff subheading 73.15.83.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)
OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Export Data Branch
Export Services and Promotions Division
Department of Trade
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE 01-215 5274.

Sudan

Customs duties – reductions. The following reductions in customs duties were announced by the official Sudanese news agency on 9 June:

Cars (CCCN 87.02) reduced from 150 per cent to 100 per cent for the first thousand pounds and from 200 per cent to 150 per cent for the second thousand;
Television sets (CCCN 85.15) reduced from 100 per cent to 70 per cent;
Radios (CCCN 85.15) reduced from 80 per cent to 40 per cent;
Watches (CCCN 91.01) reduced from 100 per cent to 50 per cent.

Inquiries: 01-248 5757 ext. 471/462/472/473.

Tonga

Tariff amendment on cigarettes. The Tonga government has issued the following amendment which came into force on 24 May 1977:

Tariff number	Tariff description	Unit of quantity	Rate of duty Commonwealth preferential	 General	Statistical number
2403	Cigarettes	1	per 1 000 $13.00	per 1 000 $14.25	122.2

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/468/401.

United States

Butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT). The *Federal Register*, 31 May, published details of a proposal by the Food and Drug Administration to restrict the use of butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) as a food additive.

The proposal would remove BHT from the GRAS list. Written comments (four copies) should be sent by 26 July to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Food nutrition labelling. The *Federal Register*, 27 May, published new amendments by the Food and Drug Administration to the declaration of protein, carbohydrate and fat content in nutrition labelling of food in terms of 'less than one gram'.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

California: upholstery furniture. The Department of Consumer Affairs in California has published the current requirements applied to non-flammability of upholstery furniture. The effective date is 1 October 1978 and the responsibility for meeting the regulations assumed either by the importer or manufacturer.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Steel: ITC investigation The International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, to study conditions of competition in the western United States steel market between certain domestic and foreign products of steel, other than alloy steel.

Public hearings will be held between October 1977 and March 1978 at times and places to be announced.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

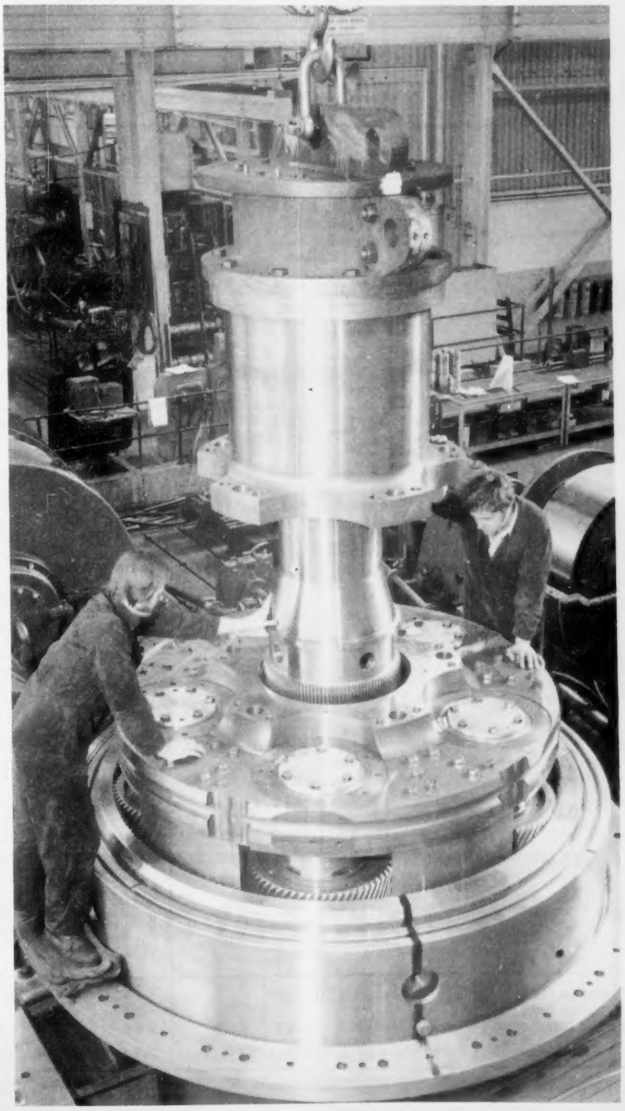
CRE tel. Direct dialling **OTAR** telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Gear from Britain

This large epicyclic gear, seen during construction is typical of the high precision work carried out by W. H. Allen and Sons Ltd. The company's gear systems will be promoted in the Philippines when Eric Smith, of Amalgamated Power Engineering, Bedford, attends the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers Association (Beama) Conference, which starts at the Intercontinental Hotel in Manila on 27 June.



Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manu-facturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manu-facturing industry	Whole-salers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970											
Series in		£ million	£ million			£ million				£ million		
Stock level at end-1976						18,218	10,404	1,830	1,977			
1970	100.0	31.644	9,453	2,130	1,799	442	325	68	−14	733	−25	758
1971	101.7	32,505	9,681	1,991	1,930	99	−148	52	22	1,087	280	807
1972	104.3	34,402	9,870	1,739	2,071	39	−145	48	15	131	−702	833
1973	110.2	36,003	10,279	1,872	2,390	1,127	404	102	382	−752	−2,334	1,582
1974	109.9	35,590	10,124	2,024	2,289	602	666	81	−111	−3,380	−5,221	1,841
1975	107.7	35,234	9,991	1,737	1,970	−680	−392	−111	−23	−1,635	−3,195	1,560
1976	108.8	35,290	9,562	1,651	1,898	−2	−4	22	1	−1,423	−3,592	2,169
1975 1st qtr.	109.6	8,988	2,534	471	492	−125	18	−31	−38	−544	−947	403
2nd qtr.	107.3	8,833	2,474	444	498	−267	−105	−54	−66	−295	−655	360
3rd qtr.	106.6	8,724	2,540	416	501	−208	−234	−29	38	−566	−967	401
4th qtr.	107.4	8,689	2,443	406	480	−80	−70	4	43	−230	−626	396
1976 1st qtr.	109.1	8,811	2,460	402	452	25	31	24	12	−80	−538	458
2nd qtr.	108.2	8,730	2,394	408	479	−97	−115	−22	−55	−439	−919	480
3rd qtr.	108.3	8,824	2,392	418	484	−22	4	10	22	−536	−1,148	612
4th qtr.	109.8	8,925	2,316	422	486	92	86	11	22	−368	−987	619
1977 1st qtr.	109.9	8,720 p	2,221	410 p	476 p	345 p	208 p	49 p	80 p	−294	−954	660
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.5	+0.5	−5.2	+0.7	—							
on a year earlier	+1.5	+0.8	−7.5	+3.0	+3.2							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (Volume)	
	Total all indus-tries	Total manu-facturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new regis-trations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all indus-tries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manu-factured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total em-ployees	mid-month count	On a balance of payments basis	
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices										at 1970 prices	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972				1970	1970
£m in base year			15,895										7,907	7,932
Series in				thousands						thousands		thousands		
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	106.7	104.2
1972	102.7	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	854.9	3.7	147.3	107.1	116.7
1973	110.3	110.0	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2 6	307.0	122.2	133.8
1974	106.4	108.2	109.9	102 8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.7ø	2.6ø	302.7ø	131.2	136.2
1975	101.3	101.7	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	3.9	150.0ø	125.6	126.4
1976	102.2	103.4	108.1	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	214.5	1,269.8ø	5.4ø	120.4ø	135.9	134.2
1976 1st qtr.	101.9	102.0	107.3	103	149.4	22.5	266.5	206.9	205.5	1,220.3	5.2	116.7	131.5	126.1
2nd qtr.	102.4	103.6	107.6	106	154.9	16.0	292.6	214.4	212.8	1,252.1	5.3	119.4	137.1	134.6
3rd qtr.	101.5	103.5	108.9	97	158.5	13.7	306.8	223.2	218.6	1,305.5	5.5	123.6	134.2	137.9
4th qtr.	103.2	104.5	108.5	113	165.8	15.0	329.9	233.9	220.6	1,316.8ø	5.6ø	..	140.8	138.1
1977 1st qtr.	103.3 p	105.4 p	105.0	104	174.1	16.5	341.5 p	248.0 p	224.6 p	1,330.2	5.6		140.3	142.0
1976 May	104.4	106.4	106.8	110	155.2	15.4	292.0	214.8	211.7	1,253.3	5.3	120.0	137.2	134.7
June	100.4	101.1	107.3	91	156.0	13.8	299.6	217.0	216.6	1,261.1	5.3	115.7	138.5	137.1
July	101.4	103.7	108.8	91	156.3	12.9	302.0	219.8	219.0	1,288.9	5.5	118.6	130.4	139.4
Aug.	100.6	102.5	108.9	115	158.5	13.8	304.0	223.4	219.1	1,308.8	5.6	126.2	134.9	133.7
Sept.	102.4	104.4	108.9	86	160.6	14.3	314.4	226.3	219.2	1,318.7	5.6	125.9	137.3	140.4
Oct.	102.8	104.7	108.1	109	163.5	14.7	327.7	230.0	219.5	1,307.9	5.5	124.5	140.8	140.6
Nov.	103.5	104.9	109.2	119	165.8	15.0	331.8	234.6	220.7	..	..	..	138.1	140.1
Dec.	103.3	103.8	108.3	111	168.0	15.1	330.2	237.2	221.5	1,325.7 e	5.6 e	..	143.3	133.6
1977 Jan.	103.4	105.1	106.7	93	172.4	16.6	337.8	244.9	223.8	1,338.2	5.7	..	140.6	153.6
Feb.	103.3	105.7	105.7	118	174.1	16.2	339.5	248.2	224.8	1,331.4	5.6	150.5	138.0	133.7
Mar.	103.1	105.5	103.1	102	175.8	16.7	347.2	250.8	225.2	1,321.1	5.6	157.3	142.9	139.4
Apr.	103.2	104.7	103.4	108	180.3	17.5	349.8	255.4	226.0	1,322.6	5.6	158.5	148.8	138.6
May			103½	108	181.7	17.1	348.1 p	259.6 p	226.8 p	1,315.9	5.6	161.2	145.3 p	142.4 p
June										1,352.8 p	5.7	157.8 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−0.2	+0.7	−3.5	−1.2	+4.5		+3.7	+4.9	+1.2	—			+3½	–
on a year earlier	+0.9	+2.7	−3.4	−3.0	+17.1		+22.6	+20.6	+7.7	+6.3			+7½	+7½

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available ø Average of available months e estimate

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Economic indicators of the industrial countries

The tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves. International publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented, where available, by later reports, denoted – (e). The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned. Exchange rates are those used in the basic data sources. The group of industrial countries is taken as comprising the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) ie: Western Europe, North America, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Consumer prices apart, New Zealand is excluded from OECD totals in that insufficient information is available.

The five tables in this article are published monthly. A full set of tables with commentary appears quarterly (see 3 June 1977).

TABLE 1 **Industrial production** (excluding construction) seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	EEC[1]	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
Weights in total	1.3	0.1	6.0	13.2	0.2	4.4	1.5	6.4	33.1	3.6	43.3	11.9	
1971	103	98.7	104	101.8	105	99.9	106	100.1	102	105.8	102.0	102.8	101
1972	109	102.8	112	105.7	109	104.4	111	102.4	106	113.1	111.0	110.2	108
1973	116	115.1	119	112.9	119	114.5	119	110.8	115	122.5	120.4	127.4	119
1974	120	119.1	122	111.3	123	119.0	123	107.9	115	126.9	119.9	123.5	119
1975	108	93.0	114	105.0	115	108.5	117	102.6	108	121.0	109.3	110.4	109
1976	119	98.8	124	112.7	127	121.1	125	104.5	115	126.6	120.4	125.4	119
1975 1st quarter	111	101.4	113	105.5	115	110.2	118	106.3	109	121.3	105.0	106.5	108
2nd quarter	107	92.5	113	103.2	114	107.0	115	101.5	106	120.6	106.0	109.8	108
3rd quarter	105	82.6	112	103.0	115	105.9	113	100.6	105	120.1	111.8	112.2	111
4th quarter	110	94.4	117	108.2	117	110.8	121	101.8	110	121.6	114.4	112.9	114
1976 1st quarter	115	97.5	123	111.2	123	116.6	121	103.5	113	125.2	117.8	119.5	117
2nd quarter	121	104.1	123	112.3	125	120.7	123	104.5	115	127.3	120.0	115.0	119
3rd quarter	118	95.9	125	112.3	129	122.7	126	104.1	116	127.0	121.5	127.0	120
4th quarter	122	98.1	124	114.3	131	127.6	127	106.1	117	127.2	122.2	129.3	122
1977 1st quarter	122	100.1	128	116.5		130.4	125	107.3	119	129.6	123.8	130.1	123
1975 October	107	89.2	113	107.2		111.1	116	102.0	108	119.5	113.0	114.2	112
November	110	97.6	113	108.7		113.0	122	102.3	109	122.3	114.6	111.8	113
December	109	97.7	117	109.4		107.6	120	101.0	109	123.0	115.3	114.0	114
1976 January	112	96.4	120	110.8		112.0	120	102.4	111	124.2	116.6	116.5	115
February	114	98.4	120	111.8		118.8	120	104.1	115	125.2	118.1	119.0	117
March	117	97.7	122	110.2		119.0	122	103.4	113	126.3	118.8	122.7	118
April	120	100.9	122	112.3		118.6	124	104.4	114	126.7	119.1	125.9	119
May	119	108.6	122	111.2		124.1	121	106.9	114	128.3	120.2	123.4	119
June	121	102.9	123	113.3		119.5	124	102.2	115	126.7	120.7	125.7	120
July	114	93.5	124	109.3		122.7	124	104.0	113	126.3	121.2	127.3	119
August	121	86.3	124	112.7		118.9	125	103.1	115	127.5	121.8	126.7	120
September	121	107.9	129	115.0		126.4	129	105.2	117	127.1	121.3	127.1	121
October	122	104.9	123	117.3		122.8	126	105.6	117	126.0	121.0	127.3	121
November	119	95.6	128	113.5		128.2	125	106.4	117	127.3	122.3	130.4	121
December	123	93.7	125	112.1		131.7	129	106.2	117	128.4	123.5	130.3	123
1977 January	122	102.5	129	120.0		130.1	128	107.4	120	129.8	122.5	130.7	124
February	120	95.2	127	115.9		130.7	124	107.3	118	129.5	123.6	128.4	123
March	123	102.5	129	113.6		130.4	123	107.1	118	129.4	125.2	131.2	122
April				114.7 (e)		118.8 (e)	126 (e)	106.7			126.3	131.0 (e)	
May											127.7 (e)		
% change latest three months													
On previous three months	0.3	2.0	2.4	−0.4	1.6	−2.6	−2.4	0.3	1.4	1.8	2.6	−0.2	0.5
On a year earlier	6.4	2.6	6.4	3.0	12.0	6.6	1.9	2.9	5.0	3.5	5.9	6.3	4.9

[1] Excluding Denmark.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

Notes to table 3 (next page)

Unemployment data are defined and collected on different bases in different countries. The following notes indicate main variations preventing direct international comparison:

[1] Registered unemployed (excluding school leavers): rate per cent of total employees.

[2] Insured unemployed: rate per cent of total insured population.

[3] Labour force sample survey: rate per cent of total labour force.

[4] Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries: rate per cent of total numbers insured.

[5] Estimated in the absence of one month's figures.

[6] Averaged over component months. Rates per cent relate to the last period for which unemployment figures are given.

[7] Some seasonally adjusted data have been estimated from unadjusted material.

[8] UK per cent changes are calculated with a non-rounded series.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators' and *Department of Employment Gazette*.

[9] From 1977, new method of calculating unemployment which is not consistent with the other figures.

Government Publications in the Midlands

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TABLE 3 **Unemployment** seasonally adjusted[7]

Numbers thousands

	Belgium[2]	Denmark[4]	France[1]	F.R. of Germany[1]	Ireland[2]	Italy[3,9]	Netherlands[1]	United Kingdom[1,8]	Canada[2]	United States[3]	Japan[3]
1971	71	30	337	185	42	613	62	776	552	4 993	639
1972	87	30	380	246	48	696	108	885	562	4 840	730
1973	92	20	394	274	44	669	110	611	520	4 305	670
1974	105	45	498	583	48	560	135	600[5]	525	5 076	740
1975	177	103	840	1 074	75	654	195	929	697	7 830	1 000
1976	229	107	933	1 060	84	732	211	1 269[5]	736	7 288	1 080
1975 1st quarter	142	99	708	1 000	68	603	174	738	664	7 476	910
2nd quarter	170	103	829	1 070	74	667	191	847	698	8 087	962
3rd quarter	190	101	915	1 123	78	648	205	1 000	715	7 997	1 025
4th quarter	209	109	916	1 142	80	699	210	1 132	721	7 912	1 124
1976 1st quarter	210	109	907	1 139	82	681	208	1 223	705	7 151	1 067
2nd quarter	229	106	950	1 033	84	693	208	1 246	730	7 014	1 100
3rd quarter	240	104	951	1 035	85	776	221	1 308	752	7 439	1 102
4th quarter	237	115	932	1 014	83	777	206	n.a.	764	7 578	1 051
1977 1st quarter	243	127	973	1 022		1 460	194	1 330	822	7 068	1 027
1975 August	191	104	864	1 121	77		207	997	742	7 924	1 029
September	199	107	933	1 097	79		210	1 034	709	7 970	1 056
October	211	109	928	1 132	80		211	1 089	726	8 092	1 139
November	211	107	913	1 137	80		211	1 138	718	7 939	1 126
December	208	117	906	1 153	81		211	1 175	712	7 735	1 105
1976 January	206	114	900	1 186	81		207	1 211	681	7 290	1 092
February	208	110	901	1 328	82		212	1 232	719	7 136	1 066
March	216	105	921	1 181	82		206	1 227	705	7 027	1 043
April	221	101	929	1 071	84		204	1,234	749	7 040	1 080
May	228	99	953	1 013	85		207	1 250	719	6 860	1 108
June	238	99	967	1 016	83		213	1 257	723	7 143	1 112
July	238	105	950	1 036	85		217	1 294	761	7 428	1 117
August	244	103	962	1 091	86		225	1 309	745	7 506	1 120
September	237	105	941	1 028	84		220	1 319	750	7 384	1 068
October	230	113	935	1 022	83		214	1 305	769	7 564	1 093
November	244	111	931	1 009	83		207	n.a.	752	7 651	1 102
December	238	122	930	1 011	83		199	1 326	772	7 519	967
1977 January	239	125	945	1 053	81		196	1 338	780	6 958	997
February	239	132	972	1 020	81 (e)		193	1 331	829	7 183	1 030
March	250	125	1 003	992			192	1 321	856	7 064	1 053
April	254	132(e)	1 039	1 015			192	1 323	870	6 737	1 004
May	262(e)		1 097 (e)	1007 (e)				1 316	784(e)	6 750 (e)	
June								1 353			
Rate % in latest month[6]	9.8 (e)	11.6 (e)	6.4 (e)	4.4 (e)	11.9	6.8	5.0	5.7	7.9	6.9	1.8(e)
% change latest three months											
On previous three months	5.4	8.7	10.3	−2.6	−2.0		−4.2	−0.1	5.4	−5.1	−1.0
On a year earlier	13.5	23.1	12.0	−2.8	0.4		−7.2	6.7	15.5	−1.3	−3.2

See notes to table 3 on previous page.

TABLE 5 **Consumer prices** All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1971	104.3	104.7	106	105.3	105.3	108.9	104.8	107.5	109.4	106	102.9	104.3	106.1	105
1972	110.0	110.1	113	111.7	111.1	118.4	110.8	115.9	117.2	113	107.8	107.7	110.9	110
1973	117.7	116.8	123	119.9	118.8	131.8	122.4	125.2	128.0	122	116.0	114.4	124.5	119
1974	132.6	128.0	142	136.3	127.1	154.2	146.2	137.3	148.4	138	128.6	127.0	154.2	134
1975	149.6	141.7	156	152.2	134.7	186.4	171.3	151.3	184.4	157	142.5	138.6	172.4	150
1976	163.2	155.6	170	166.8	140.8	219.9	199.6	164.6	214.9	175	153.2	146.6	188.4	163
1975 1st quarter	143.9	136.3	152	147.0	132.0	177.7	164.9	145.8	166.9	150	137.1	135.0	166.4	144
2nd quarter	147.7	140.1	156	150.6	134.5	188.5	169.3	149.9	182.7	156	140.1	137.1	172.1	148
3rd quarter	151.1	143.1	158	153.9	135.5	187.1	172.9	152.9	190.8	160	144.9	140.1	173.6	151
4th quarter	155.5	147.3	157	157.3	136.7	192.2	178.1	156.3	197.3	163	147.9	142.3	177.7	155
1st quarter	158.7	151.1	162	161.1	139.0	206.3	184.8	159.0	204.4	168	149.8	143.7	181.4	158
2nd quarter	161.8	154.5	168	164.8	141.1	219.1	196.5	164.3	211.9	173	152.1	145.5	187.7	161
3rd quarter	164.9	156.9	171	168.6	141.2	222.4	201.7	165.4	216.8	176	154.3	147.8	189.8	164
4th quarter	167.6	159.7	178	172.9	141.9	231.8	215.5	169.6	226.8	182	156.6	149.4	194.5	168
1977 1st quarter	170.9	163.4	180	175.6	144.6	240.7	225.2	170.8	238.2	188	159.9	152.1	198.8	172
1975 December	156.6	148.3	158	158.2	137.1		179.2	156.7	199.7	164	148.5	143.0	177.2	155
1976 January	158.0	150.5	159	159.9	138.2		181.1	157.5	202.3	166	149.3	143.3	180.4	157
February	158.5	151.3	160	161.0	139.2	206.3	185.1	159.0	204.9	168	149.8	143.7	181.6	158
March	159.5	151.6	167	162.4	139.7		188.8	160.5	206.0	170	150.4	144.0	182.3	159
April	161.0	153.8	167	163.8	140.6		193.8	163.9	210.0	172	151.0	144.6	187.2	160
May	162.2	154.7	169	164.9	141.1	219.1	197.7	164.5	212.3	174	152.3	145.5	187.7	161
June	162.4	154.9	169	165.6	141.5		198.6	164.5	213.4	174	153.0	146.3	188.1	162
July	163.7	156.1	169	167.2	140.9		199.6	163.7	213.8	175	153.6	147.1	189.1	163
August	164.4	157.3	170	168.4	141.4	222.4	201.8	165.4	216.8	176	154.3	147.8	187.6	164
September	166.5	157.5	174	170.2	141.4		205.2	167.2	219.7	178	155.0	148.4	192.6	165
October	166.9	158.7	176	171.8	141.5		211.1	169.5	223.7	181	156.1	149.0	193.8	167
November	167.5	159.7	178	173.2	141.8	231.8	215.7	169.7	226.8	182	156.6	149.4	193.8	167
December	168.4	160.8	179	173.8	142.5		218.6	169.7	229.8	184	157.1	149.9	195.8	169
1977 January	170.1	162.4	179	174.3	143.8		221.4	169.5	235.9	186	158.4	150.7	197.7	170
February	171.4	163.5	179	175.5	144.7	240.7	225.7	170.8	238.2	188	159.9	152.3	198.8	172
March	171.3	164.2	181	177.1	145.2		228.5	172.2	240.5	190	161.5	153.2	200.0	173
April	172.2	165.2	183	179.4	145.9		230.8 (e)	175.1	246.7	192 (e)	162.4	154.4	203.3	175 (e)
May	173.9 (e)	165.8 (e)			146.5 (e)			176.0 (e)	248.7		163.7 (e)	155.3		
% change														
latest month on same month a year earlier	7.2 (e)	7.2 (e)	9.6	9.5	3.8 (e)	16.7	19.1 (e)	7.0	17.1	11.6 (e)	7.5 (e)	6.7	8.6	9.4 (e)
latest three months on previous three months	1.5	1.7	1.3	2.1	1.5	3.8	4.5	2.6	4.5	3.3	2.6	2.2	2.5	2.8
on previous three months a year earlier	7.2	7.6	9.9	9.2	3.8	16.7	20.7	7.0	17.1	11.8	7.5	6.6	9.3	9.0

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 8 **Exports (fob)** Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

		Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether- lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	Canada	United States[2]	Japan[2]	OECD
1970		11 592	3 288	17 940	34 188	1 032	13 188	11 772	19 356	112 356	16 134	43 224	19 320	220 045
1971		12 081	3 609	20 592	39 009	1 308	15 177	13 953	23 356	128 084	17 676	44 211	23 994	246 037
1972		15 995	4 330	25 739	46 208	1 610	18 535	15 392	24 340	153 152	20 184	49 676	28 591	290 784
1973		22 416	6 120	35 952	67 440	2 124	22 236	23 952	28 862	210 684	25 200	71 316	36 936	398 880
1974		28 260	7 716	45 900	89 160	2 628	30 288	32 436	37 188	275 100	32 784	98 508	55 536	532 932
1975		28 812	8 712	52 212	90 024	3 216	34 824	34 440	43 056	295 992	32 304	107 652	55 752	567 804
1976		32 844	9 108	55 812	102 036	3 312	36 924	38 748	45 683	325 044	38 628	114 996	67 272	630 684
1975	1st quarter	7 731	2 172	13 434	23 481	783	8 685	8 823	11 105	76 542	8 022	27 114	14 781	146 070
	2nd quarter	6 981	2 196	13 248	23 025	753	8 571	8 565	10 720	74 367	7 890	25 803	13 734	140 847
	3rd quarter	6 540	2 073	12 591	21 279	798	8 646	8 052	10 234	70 488	7 842	27 171	13 344	136 887
	4th quarter	7 305	2 243	12 939	22 329	834	8 943	9 009	10 858	74 763	8 220	27 837	14 130	143 982
1976	1st quarter	7 467	2 136	13 395	23 427	735	8 427	8 949	11 223	76 086	9 102	26 190	15 729	147 453
	2nd quarter	7 701	2 223	13 893	24 441	820	8 919	8 733	11 220	78 183	9 555	28 668	16 443	153 063
	3rd quarter	8 151	2 340	13 881	25 851	832	9 327	9 858	11 307	81 696	9 996	29 649	16 977	160 509
	4th quarter	9 207	2 433	14 556	27 768	903	10 089	11 241	11 681	88 104	9 402	29 499	17 685	167 034
1977	1st quarter		2 550	15 557 (e)	28 143	957			12 667		10 359	29 463	19 746	
1975	November	2 632	724	4 315	7 764	290	3 182	3 095	3 356	25 591	2 709	9 527	4 467	48 479
	December	2 324	711	4 414	7 392	246	2 916	3 037	3 562	24 785	2 857	9 376	4 849	48 651
1976	January	2 488	768	4 425	7 747	247	3 062	2 903	3 600	25 456	2 995	8 840	5 037	48 624
	February	2 648	683	4 637	7 692	247	2 591	3 017	3 552	25 328	3 210	8 858	5 223	49 290
	March	2 495	698	4 478	8 145	228	2 813	3 155	3 686	25 931	2 929	8 920	5 610	50 127
	April	2 550	723	4 568	7 981	290	2 775	2 899	3 552	25 551	3 094	9 114	5 299	49 504
	May	2 622	780	4 899	8 459	274	3 319	3 009	3 636	27 230	3 095	9 889	5 648	52 484
	June	2 594	738	4 488	8 100	249	2 725	2 785	3 634	25 511	3 389	9 689	5 640	51 276
	July	2 364	757	4 435	8 040	266	3 131	3 123	3 499	25 800	3 253	9 905	5 576	51 770
	August	2 766	785	4 713	8 378	257	3 032	3 381	3 706	27 157	3 432	9 843	5 545	53 289
	September	3 021	798	4 733	9 434	308	3 165	3 353	3 841	28 738	3 313	9 902	5 857	55 449
	October	3 148	767	4 753	9 024	323	3 387	3 435	3 780	28 710	3 138	9 725	5 988	64 652
	November	2 880	827	4 782	9 097	290	3 493	3 846	3 797	29 069	3 021	9 341	5 733	54 681
	December	3 179	809	5 021	9 648	291	3 208	3 960	4 108	30 325	3 244	10 433	5 964	57 700
1977	January	3 032	855	5 175	9 285	309	3 517	3 654	4 247	30 169	3 308	9 598	6 088	57 299 e
	February	2 950	816	5 058	9 147	323	3 299		4 168	29 400 e	3 378	9 804	6 496	57 236 e
	March		879	5 324 e	9 711	325			4 292		3 673	10 066	6 551	
	April								4 530			9 965		
	May								4 496					
% change latest three months:														
On previous three months		1.2	4.8	6.9	1.3	5.9	−0.2	12.7	6.4	3.9	10.2	1.6	8.2	4.5
One year earlier		22.8	18.7	14.9	19.3	32.6	17.0	26.8	22.5	19.0	13.4	10.9	20.6	17.5

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[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

TABLE 9 **Imports (cif)** Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

		Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether- lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	Canada	United States[2]	Japan	OECD
1970		11 352	4 380	19 116	29 808	1 572	14 940	13 392	21 720	116 280	13 308	39 960	18 876	225 649
1971		12 390	4 476	21 261	34 356	1 838	16 026	15 159	23 897	129 403	15 460	45 633	19 716	250 717
1972		14 879	4 986	26 696	39 759	2 113	19 252	17 127	27 831	152 643	18 924	55 819	23 463	297 984
1973		21 936	7 704	37 380	54 492	2 784	27 816	24 360	38 872	215 232	23 304	69 120	38 316	410 820
1974		29 700	9 852	52 824	68 976	3 816	40 968	33 204	54 345	293 568	32 292	100 968	62 112	583 080
1975		30 708	10 332	54 240	74 208	3 804	38 364	35 148	53 608	300 048	33 960	96 936	57 864	587 376
1976		33 352	12 420	64 392	87 780	4 200	43 368	39 348	56 373	343 428	37 956	121 788	64 776	675 264
1975	1st quarter	7 467	2 424	13 902	18 552	981	9 471	9 240	14 229	76 083	8 568	24 813	14 832	150 342
	2nd quarter	7 314	2 412	13 176	18 630	924	9 024	8 739	12 956	73 311	8 457	22 683	13 779	143 442
	3rd quarter	6 945	2 478	12 879	17 982	903	9 381	8 202	13 175	71 949	8 337	24 030	14 337	142 257
	4th quarter	7 614	2 841	14 277	19 128	1 008	10 410	9 039	13 104	77 517	8 556	25 410	14 964	150 357
1976	1st quarter	7 743	2 820	15 015	19 956	1 023	10 035	8 847	13 363	78 684	9 240	27 333	14 973	155 022
	2nd quarter	7 986	2 958	15 399	20 775	975	10 578	9 444	13 874	82 146	9 630	29 295	15 300	161 292
	3rd quarter	8 286	3 186	16 335	22 431	1 059	10 620	10 002	14 328	86 304	9 612	32 043	17 004	172 890
	4th quarter	9 225	3 381	17 628	24 240	1 125	12 057	11 658	14 438	93 894	9 405	32 631	17 427	183 408
1977	1st quarter		3 312	17 653 (e)	24 411	1 293			15 344		9 882	35 439	17 721	
1975	November	2 605	978	4 897	6 307	357	3 637	3 203	4 367	26 349	2 907	8 555	4 792	50 654
	December	2 565	991	4 786	6 562	345	3 676	3 116	4 439	26 478	2 848	8 555	5 221	50 833
1976	January	2 671	888	5 043	6 534	332	3 177	2 959	4 467	26 022	3 110	9 425	5 126	51 913
	February	2 523	972	5 125	6 699	356	3 193	2 902	4 552	26 340	3 154	8 820	5 037	51 781
	March	2 559	996	4 971	6 811	353	3 429	3 041	4 342	26 408	3 028	9 226	4 884	51 960
	April	2 661	993	5 020	7 146	321	3 641	3 282	4 548	27 665	3 238	9 651	4 975	53 540
	May	2 822	981	5 479	6 983	338	3 962	3 176	4 620	28 157	3 070	9 192	4 899	53 734
	June	2 572	989	4 852	6 680	326	3 280	3 014	4 697	26 449	3 294	9 883	5 120	53 319
	July	2 639	919	4 941	7 089	332	3 422	3 238	4 818	27 438	3 199	10 992	5 473	56 017
	August	2 757	1 103	5 498	7 778	350	3 643	3 415	4 635	29 174	3 268	10 377	5 699	58 028
	September	2 885	1 165	5 896	7 563	376	3 555	3 350	4 869	29 692	3 144	10 673	5 833	58 846
	October	3 028	1 070	5 825	7 748	355	3 782	3 645	4 609	30 194	3 066	10 748	5 785	58 974
	November	3 088	1 111	6 064	7 763	392	4 532	3 567	4 890	31 515	3 230	10 679	6 054	61 682
	December	3 109	1 200	5 740	8 730	378	3 742	4 446	4,878	32 185	3 108	11 204	5 588	62 752
1977	January	3 346	1 099	6 053	8 349	463	3 870	4 075	5 527	32 790	3 257	11 430	6 173	64 141 e
	February	3 070	1 030	5 725	7 818	418	3 995		4 879	30 700 e	3 329	11 582	5 677	61 835 e
	March		1 184	5 875 e	8 244	414			4 938		3 297	12 427	5 873	
	April								5 176			12 564 e		
	May								5 386					
% change latest three months:														
On previous three months		5.8	−2.0	0.1	0.7	15.1	−2.2	16.1	+1.4	4.7	5.1	9.8	1.7	5.1
One year earlier		22.8	16.0	16.6	21.8	24.4	15.5	30.3	14.7	21.4	6.4	32.0	17.8	22.1

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[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] fob.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Series "A" '

Employment on scientific research and development in industry in 1975

This article presents the detailed figures of employment from the survey of scientific research and development in industry in 1975 covering private industry, public corporations and research associations. The article is a companion to that published in last week's issue, on the subject of R&D expenditure, which also included some summary statistics of R&D employment. For notes and definitions, reference should be made to last week's article.

Summary of R&D employment in 1975

Of the 180 000 estimated to be employed on R&D in British industry at the end of 1975, about 90 per cent were employed by private industry, the remaining 10 per cent working for public corporations (7 per cent) and research associations (3 per cent). This distribution is approximately the same as that in 1972. The figures are summarised in table A, which also gives the distribution between those working as scientists and engineers, those working as technicians or at similar levels and as other employees. Scientists and engineers comprised about one-third of the total, and there were more working as technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen (36 per cent of the total) than as administrative, clerical and other staff (31 per cent of the total). It needs to be remembered that this classification into a limited number of occupational groups is not by qualification and that people with degrees or equivalent qualifications are included in each group.

TABLE A **Occupational grouping of employment on research and development, 1975**

As at 31 December

	All industry	Private industry	Public corporations	Research associations
NUMBERS	Thousands			
All R&D employees	180	161	13	6
Scientists and engineers	59	51	6	2
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	65	59	4	2
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	55	51	3	2
	Per cent			
All R&D employees	100	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	33	32	48	37
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	36	37	29	31
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	31	31	23	32

Distribution of employment by product group

Perhaps the most important way to consider R&D employment in industry is to look at the incidence of employment in different product groups. A detailed analysis of employment in 1975 by product group and sector is given in appendix table 1, including a comparison between the distribution by product group of R&D employment and R&D expenditure (as given in appendix table 1 of last week's article). It will be seen that 97 per cent of R&D employees work on manufactured products, which accounted for 96 per cent of R&D expenditure. The distribution by product groups of R&D employment is very similar to that of R&D expenditure, the most notable difference being in aerospace which accounted for 19 per cent of employment but 22 per cent of expenditure. Over one-quarter of R&D employment was on electrical engineering products, and over one-fifth was on electronics alone. Another fifth was on each of chemicals and allied products and on aerospace. These three product groups together accounted for nearly two-thirds of industrial employment on R&D.

The occupational structure of R&D employment in the various product groups is shown in detail in appendix table 2 and summarised in table B, for the product groups which account for about 80 per cent of total R&D employment. It needs to be remembered that these occupational distributions are only approximate because the distinctions, particularly between the first two groups are not clear cut and there is some evidence to suggest that the categories may have been interpreted in different ways. The proportion of scientists and engineers ranged from 36 per cent for chemicals and allied products and 34 per cent for electrical engineering products down to 27 per cent for motor vehicles and aerospace. The proportion of technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen was particularly high (41 per cent) for chemicals and allied products and low (27 per cent) for motor vehicles. The proportion of 'other' employees engaged on R&D work was well above the average in aerospace (42 per cent) due to the need to build prototype aircraft and engines. The situation is similar for motor vehicles.

TABLE B **Occupational grouping of employment on research and development, 1975**

Selected product groups

As at 31 December

	All product groups	Chemical and allied products	Mechanical engineering	Electrical engineering (incl. electronics)	Motor vehicles	Aerospace
NUMBERS	Thousands					
All R&D employees	180	32	13	48	15	35
Scientists and engineers	59	12	4	17	4	9
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	65	13	5	18	4	11
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	55	7	4	14	7	15
	Per cent					
All R&D employees	100	100	100	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	33	36	33	34	27	27
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	36	41	38	37	27	31
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	31	23	29	28	46	42

Salaries and wages per head

The tables published last week included details of expenditure on salaries and wages (appendix table 5). When divided by the numbers employed these figures provide estimates of the average remuneration of R&D employees. A summary of these averages is given in table C, for the most important product groups. It needs to be remembered that these figures are approximate in that the total payments for salaries and wages in 1975 are being divided by employment as at 31 December 1975 and that they reflect differences in the composition of employment. The averages ranged from £3,300 in aerospace to £4,200 in chemicals and allied products. It has already been shown in table B that the proportion of scientists and engineers was high in chemicals and low in aerospace and this will probably have contributed to the differences in the average remuneration. The average for public corporations was higher than for private industry, in all product groups, again probably associated with higher proportions of scientists and engineers as illustrated in table A. Average remuneration in the research associations was lower than in private industry despite a high proportion of scientists and engineers just as in 1972.

TABLE C **Salaries and wages per head of employment on research and development, 1975**

Analysis by sector for selected product groups

£ per annum

	All industry	Private industry	Public corporations	Research associations
All product groups	3,700	3,700	4,900	3,200
Chemicals and allied products	4,200	4,200	4,200	3,200
Mechanical engineering	3,700	3,400	5,000	3,100
Electrical engineering (including electronics)	3,700	3,500	5,300	3,500
Motor vehicles	4,000	4,000	.. (1)	3,300
Aerospace	3,300	3,300	.. (1)	.. (1)

(1) Averages have been omitted where based on less than 50 employees.

Changes in employment, 1967 to 1975

In last week's article it was noted that R&D employment fell by 2 per cent between 1972 and 1975, but this was a very much slower rate of fall than that between 1969 and 1972, when it was 14 per cent. These figures relate to R&D employment as a whole, which is analysed by sector in table D. It can be seen that the reductions in R&D employment have been greatest in private industry. R&D employment by public corporations fell between 1967 and 1968 but has been increased a little since that time. The table also gives figures and index numbers for intra-mural expenditure on R&D, which is that part of R&D expenditure associated with the employment of staff on R&D.

TABLE D **Employment and expenditure on research and development, 1967 to 1975**

Analysis by sector

	1967	1968	1969	1972	1975
EMPLOYMENT ON R&D (as at 31 December)					
	Thousands				
All industry	219	216	212	183	180
Private industry	198	197	193	164	161
Public corporations	15	13	13	14	13
Research associations	6	6	6	6	6
	Index 1967 = 100				
All industry	100	99	97	84	82
Private industry	100	99	97	83	81
Public corporations	100	87	88	94	92
Research associations	100	104	104	91	90
INTRA-MURAL EXPENDITURE ON R&D					
	£ million at current prices				
All industry	605	639	680	831	1,333
Private industry	550	583	619	743	1,178
Public corporations	42	41	45	69	124
Research associations	13	14	16	19	31
	Index 1967 = 100				
All industry	100	106	113	137	220
Private industry	100	106	113	135	214
Public corporations	100	98	108	166	298
Research associations	100	112	127	145	240

Any examination of employment for individual product groups since 1967 has to be limited to private industry because product group detail was not requested from the public corporations and research associations before 1972. Index numbers for the changes over time for the main product groups are given in table E. There was a marked drop in employment between 1969 and 1972 for all these major product groups, although for chemicals and allied products the rate of decline was much slower and within this total there was even an increase in employment for pharmaceuticals (see appendix table 3). In the latest period from 1972 to 1975, the reduction of 2 per cent in overall employment was concentrated mainly on electrical engineering (including electronics), a group which still accounted for over a quarter of R&D employment in private industry in 1975. There was also a slight reduction in employment on aerospace but increases in chemicals and allied products, mechanical engineering and motor vehicles.

TABLE E **Changes in employment in research and development, 1967 to 1975**

Selected product groups in private industry — As at 31 December

	1967	1968	1969	1972	1975
	Index 1967 = 100				
All product groups	100	99	97	83	81
Chemicals and allied products	100	104	106	98	99
Mechanical engineering	100	93	80	50	52
Electrical engineering (including electronics)	100	105	104	92	85
Motor vehicles	100	101	100	94	102
Aerospace	100	92	90	78	77

It is of interest to compare changes in employment on R&D with changes in total employment even though such a comparison can only be very approximate because the R&D employment is reported by companies who allocate employment to product groups while the Department of Employment figures cover all those employed in establishments classified to the industry. The R&D figures most comparable with those from the Department of Employment are thought to be those for manufacturing – defined as private industry together with the British Steel Corporation, since other public corporations and research associations are probably not concerned with production except indirectly. Also the Department of Employment figures are mid-year estimates while the R&D figures relate to the end of the year. The comparison of manufacturing in table F is on this basis: manufactured products account for 99 per cent of R&D in 1975, as in previous years.

During the eight-year period covered by the table the overall rate of reduction for R&D employment was 20 per cent compared with 10 per cent for total employment, the difference occurring mainly in the period 1969-72. There was a rather similar difference in aerospace, where the reduction in R&D employment was 23 per cent over eight years, compared with 16 per cent for total employment. The comparison for electrical engineering (including electronics) was not dissimilar, with a drop of 15 per cent in R&D employment compared with a reduction of 5 per cent in total employment. Both R&D and total employment in mechanical engineering fell particularly heavily in the period 1969 to 1972: R&D employment in this period fell by 38 per cent but appears to have stabilised and perhaps increased slightly between 1972 and 1975. For two main product groups (or industrial groups) the rates of change were markedly different from the pattern for manufacturing as a whole. The two groups were for chemicals and allied products and for motor vehicles, where the changes over the eight years in both R&D employment and total employment were relatively small.

R&D employment in private industry since 1967 is given in greater product group detail in appendix table 3. For example it can be seen that R&D employment on miscellaneous electrical goods, increased between 1972 and 1975, contrary to the general fall in the electrical and electronic fields. Similarly, in mechanical engineering there was a general increase in R&D employment, but there was a distinct fall in the products falling under the heading of 'other machinery and equipment'.

TABLE F **Changes in R&D employment compared with total employment (1) 1967 to 1975**

Manufacturing (product or industry) — Percentage change in the period

	1967-69 (2 years)	1969-72 (3 years)	1972-75 (3 years)	1967-75 (8 years)
All manufacturing				
R&D employment	−3	−15	−2	−20
All employees in employment	negligible	−7	−4	−10
Chemicals and allied products				
R&D employment	+6	−8	+1	−1
All employees in employment	−1	−4	+1	−4
Mechanical engineering				
R&D employment	−20	−38	+4	−48
All employees in employment	negligible	−10	−2	−11
Electrical engineering (including electronics)				
R&D employment	+4	−12	−7	−15
All employees in employment	negligible	−5	−1	−5
Motor vehicles				
R&D employment	negligible	−6	+8	+2
All employees in employment	+6	negligible	−7	negligible
Aerospace				
R&D employment	−10	−13	−2	−23
All employees in employment	−3	−15	+2	−16
All manufacturing (excluding aerospace)				
R&D employment	−2	−18	+1	−18
All employees in employment	+1	−7	−4	−10

(1) As published in the *Department of Employment Gazette*, March 1975 and August 1976.

The occupational classification used in the R&D survey of 1967 differed from that used in later years and consequently the time series available is one year short. Table G gives figures from only the last three inquiries. Over the six-year period as a whole, the total number of scientists and engineers was reduced by 8000, that of technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen by 8000 also, and that of the remaining support staff by 18 000. The proportion of scientists and engineers has remained fairly constant at about one-third, while the proportion of employees who are technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen has increased slightly and that in the 'other' category has fallen from 34 per cent to 31 per cent of the total. For public corporations and for research associations the figures are small and hardly any changes are discernible. The greater percentage of scientists and engineers employed and the lower percentage of both technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen and of other staff persisted throughout the period. But the changes are not large, given the difficulty of making these distinctions.

continued on next page

TABLE G Occupational groupings of employment on research and development, 1969 to 1975

Analysis by sector — As at 31 December

	All industry			Private industry			Public corporations			Research associations		
	1969	1972	1975	1969	1972	1975	1969	1972	1975	1969	1972	1975
	Thousands											
Total (numbers)	212	183	180	193	164	161	13	14	13	6	6	6
Scientists and engineers	67	61	59	59	52	51	6	6	6	3	2	2
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	72	64	65	67	59	59	4	4	4	2	2	2
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	73	58	55	67	53	51	3	3	3	2	2	2
	Per cent											
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	32	33	33	31	32	32	46	47	48	40	41	37
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	34	35	36	35	36	37	29	29	29	29	29	31
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	34	32	31	35	32	31	25	24	23	31	30	32

Occupational groupings in the main product groups are summarised in table H for the same period of six years. For the reason given in an earlier paragraph, this table is limited to private industry. For the six-year period as a whole, the reduction of 8000 in the number of scientists and engineers was mainly accounted for by reductions of 4000 in electrical engineering and 2000 in aerospace. The reduction of 8000 in technicians and related occupations occurred mainly in mechanical engineering (3000). The reduction of 16 000 in other support staff was spread over all the major R&D product groups, with the exception of motor vehicles. The occupational distributions within the product groups have fluctuated, perhaps reflecting the difficulty of making this breakdown. But the low proportion of scientists and engineers and the high proportion of 'other' support staff in motor vehicles and aerospace has been evident throughout.

TABLE H Occupational grouping of employment on research and development, 1969 to 1975

Selected product groups in private industry — As at 31 December

	Numbers (thousands)			Percentages of total R&D employees		
	1969	1972	1975	1969	1972	1975
All product groups						
Total R&D employees	193	164	161	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	59	52	51	31	32	32
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	67	59	59	35	36	37
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	67	53	51	35	32	31
Chemicals and allied products						
Total R&D employees	33	31	31	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	12	10	11	35	31	36
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	12	13	13	37	43	41
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	10	8	7	29	26	23
Mechanical engineering						
Total R&D employees	15	10	10	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	3	3	3	23	29	30
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	7	4	4	43	40	42
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	5	3	3	34	32	28
Electrical engineering (including electronics)						
Total R&D employees	54	47	44	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	18	18	14	34	37	33
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	18	17	17	33	35	38
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	18	13	13	33	27	29
Motor vehicles						
Total R&D employees	14	13	14	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	4	3	4	25	24	27
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	5	4	4	34	30	27
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	6	6	7	41	46	46
Aerospace						
Total R&D staff	41	35	35	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	11	10	9	28	29	27
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	11	10	11	28	29	31
Administrative, clerical, industrial and other staff	18	15	15	44	41	42

APPENDIX TABLE 1 Employment on R and D, 1975

	All industry	Private industry	Public corporations	Research associations	Percentage of total: R&D expenditure	Percentage of total: All employment manufacturing
	Thousands at 31 December				Per cent	
ALL PRODUCT GROUPS	**179.6**	**160.8**	**13.3**	**5.5**	**100**	**100**
Mining and quarrying	**1.0**	**0.7**	**0.2**	—	—	**1**
Manufacturing						
Total	173.6	159.1	10.4	4.1	96	97
Food, drink, tobacco	7.3	6.8	—	0.4	4	4
Chemicals and allied products:						
Total	32.3	31.1	0.7	0.5	19	18
Petroleum products	2.0	2.0	—	—	1	1
Pharmaceutical products	10.2	10.2	—	—	6	6
Paint	1.6	1.5	—	0.1	1	1
Synthetic resins and plastic materials	3.7	3.5	—	0.2	2	2
Other chemicals	14.8	13.9	0.7	0.2	9	8
Iron and steel	3.3	0.6	2.5	0.2	2	2
Non-ferrous metals	1.2	0.9	—	0.2	1	1
Mechanical engineering:						
Total	13.2	9.9	3.0	0.4	7	7
Metal working machine tools	0.9	0.7	—	0.2	—	—
Textile machinery	0.8	0.7	—	0.1	—	—
Mechanical handling and contractors' plant	1.1	0.9	0.2	—	1	1
Industrial plant and steelwork	3.1	1.2	1.8	0.1	2	2
Other machinery and equipment	7.4	6.4	0.9	—	4	4
Scientific instruments and systems	3.6	3.0	0.3	0.2	2	2
Electrical engineering:						
Total	48.0	44.0	3.7	0.3	26	27
Electronic computers	6.1	6.0	—	—	4	3
Electronic components and apparatus including telecommunications	31.8	28.7	3.1	—	17	18
Electrical machinery	4.6	4.0	0.4	0.2	3	3
Insulated wires and cables	1.4	1.2	0.2	—	1	1
Domestic appliances	1.1	1.1	—	—	—	1
Miscellaneous electrical goods	2.9	2.9	—	—	2	2
Ships and marine engines	1.6	1.3	—	0.3	1	1
Motor vehicles	14.7	14.4	—	0.2	7	8
Aerospace (including air cushion vehicles)	34.7	34.7	—	—	22	19
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	1.8	1.6	0.1	—	1	1
Textiles and man-made fibres	4.3	3.9	—	0.4	2	2
Leather, leather goods, fur, clothing and footwear	0.4	0.2	—	0.2	—	—
Building materials and abrasives	1.3	1.2	—	—	1	1
Pottery, china and glass	1.4	1.3	—	0.1	1	1
Timber and furniture	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	—	—
Paper, paper products and publishing	1.3	1.2	—	0.1	1	1
Rubber and rubber goods	1.5	1.3	—	0.2	1	1
Other manufactures	1.6	1.5	—	0.1	1	1
Construction	**0.9**	**0.3**	—	**0.6**	—	—
Utilities and services	**4.1**	**0.7**	**2.7**	**0.8**	**3**	**2**

— Nil or less than 50.

APPENDIX TABLE 2 **Occupational grouping of employment on research and development, 1975**

Thousands at 31 December

	Scientists and engineers				Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen				Administrative, clerical and others			
	Total	Private industry	Public corpora-tions	Research associa-tions	Total	Private industry	Pubiic corpora-tions	Research associa-tions	Total	Private industry	Public corpora-tions	Research associa-tions
ALL PRODUCT GROUPS	**59.5**	**51.1**	**6.4**	**2.0**	**64.7**	**59.2**	**3.9**	**1.7**	**55.4**	**50.5**	**3.1**	**1.8**
Mining and quarrying	**0.3**	**0.2**	**0.1**	—	**0.4**	**0.3**	**0.1**	—	**0.2**	**0.2**	—	—
Manufactures												
Total	57.1	50.5	5.0	1.6	62.8	58.6	2.9	1.3	53.8	50.0	2.5	1.2
Food, drink, tobacco	2.2	2.0	—	0.2	3.3	3.1	—	0.2	1.8	1.7	—	0.1
Chemicals and allied products:												
Total	11.7	11.2	0.3	0.2	13.1	12.8	0.1	0.1	7.5	7.1	0.2	0.2
Petroleum products	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.8	0.8	—	—
Pharmaceutical products	3.9	3.9	—	—	3.5	3.5	—	—	2.8	2.8	—	—
Paint	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.8	0.8	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—
Synthetic resins and plastic materials	1.4	1.3	—	0.1	1.6	1.6	—	—	0.8	0.7	—	0.1
Other chemicals	5.3	4.9	0.3	0.1	6.7	6.5	0.1	0.1	2.8	2.5	0.2	—
Iron and steel	1.4	0.2	1.1	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.8	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.6	0.1
Non-ferrous metals	0.5	0.4	—	0.1	0.4	0.3	—	0.1	0.3	0.2	—	0.1
Mechanical engineering:												
Total	4.4	2.9	1.3	0.1	5.0	4.2	0.7	0.1	3.8	2.7	1.0	0.1
Metal working machine tools	0.3	0.2	—	0.1	0.3	0.3	—	0.1	0.2	0.2	—	0.1
Textile machinery	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—
Mechanical handling and contractor's plant	0.3	0.2	0.1	—	0.3	0.3	0.1	—	0.4	0.3	—	—
Industrial plant and steelwork	1.3	0.5	0.8	—	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.1	1.0	0.4	0.5	—
Other machinery and equipment	2.3	1.8	0.4	—	2.8	2.7	0.1	—	2.1	1.7	0.4	—
Scientific instruments and systems	1.4	1.2	0.2	0.1	1.3	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.1	0.1
Electrical engineering:												
Total	16.5	14.5	1.9	0.1	18.0	16.6	1.2	0.1	13.5	12.8	0.6	0.1
Electronic computers	2.0	2.0	—	—	0.8	0.7	—	—	3.4	3.3	—	—
Electronic components and apparatus including telecommunications	10.8	9.1	1.7	—	13.6	12.5	1.1	—	7.5	7.1	0.4	—
Electrical machinery	1.6	1.3	0.2	0.1	1.7	1.5	0.1	0.1	1.4	1.2	0.1	0.1
Domestic appliances	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—
Miscellaneous electrical goods	1.8	1.7	0.1	—	1.5	1.5	0.1	—	1.0	0.9	0.1	—
Ships and marine engines	0.7	0.6	—	0.1	0.5	0.4	—	0.1	0.4	0.3	—	0.1
Motor vehicles	4.0	3.9	—	0.1	3.9	3.9	—	0.1	6.7	6.6	—	0.1
Aerospace (including air cushion vehicles)	9.2	9.2	—	—	10.9	10.9	—	—	14.6	14.6	—	—
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	0.7	0.6	0.1	—	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.5	0.4	—	—
Textiles and man-made fibres	1.3	1.1	—	0.2	1.8	1.7	—	0.1	1.2	1.1	—	0.1
Leather, leather goods, fur, clothing and footwear	0.1	—	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1
Building materials and abrasives	0.5	0.4	—	—	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—
Pottery, china and glass	0.7	0.6	—	0.1	0.4	0.3	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—
Timber and furniture	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—
Paper, paper products and publishing	0.6	0.5	—	0.1	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—
Rubber and rubber goods	0.5	0.5	—	0.1	0.7	0.6	—	0.1	0.3	0.2	—	—
Other manufactures	0.6	0.5	—	—	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—
Construction	**0.3**	**0.1**	—	**0.2**	**0.3**	**0.1**	—	**0.2**	**0.3**	**0.1**	—	**0.2**
Utilities and services	**1.8**	**0.3**	**1.3**	**0.3**	**1.2**	**0.2**	**0.8**	**0.2**	**1.1**	**0.3**	**0.5**	**0.3**

— Nil or less than 50.

APPENDIX TABLE 3 **Employment on research and development, 1967 to 1975**

Product groups in private industry

Thousands at 31 December

	1967	1968	1969	1972	1975
ALL PRODUCTS GROUP	**198**	**197**	**193**	**164**	**161**
Manufactured products					
Total	196	196	191	163	159
Food, drink, tobacco	7	7	7	6	7
Chemicals and allied products:					
Total	31	33	33	31	31
Petroleum products	4	4	4	3	2
Pharmaceutical products	7	6	7	9	10
Paint	—	—	1	1	2
Synthetic resins and plastic materials	4	4	4	3	4
Other chemicals (includes paint for 1967)	17	19	17	15	14
Iron and steel	4	3	1	1	1
Non-ferrous metals			2	1	1
Mechanical engineering:					
Total	19	18	15	10	10
Metal working machine tools	2	2	1	—	1
Textile machinery	17	16	1	1	1
Mechanical handling and contractors' plant			1	1	1
Industrial plant and steelwork			3	1	1
Other machinery and equipment			10	7	6
Instrument engineering	5	5	6	5	3
Electrical engineering:					
Total	52	54	54	47	44
Electronic computers	40	42	7	5	6
Electronic components and apparatus (including telecommunications)			35	33	29
Electrical machinery	5	6	6	5	4
Domestic appliances	6	6	1	1	1
Miscellaneous electrical goods			5	3	4
Ships and marine engines	1	1	1	1	1
Motor vehicles	14	14	14	13	14
Aerospace (including air cushion vehicles)	45	42	41	35	35
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	3	3	3	2	2
Textiles, man-made fibres, leather goods, clothing and footwear	5	5	5	3	4
Building materials and abrasives	10	10	2	1	1
Pottery, china and glass			2	2	1
Timber, furniture, paper, paper products and publishing			2	1	1
Rubber and rubber goods			1	1	1
Other manufactures			2	2	2
Non-manufacturing	**2**	**2**	**2**	**1**	**2**

— Less than 500.

UK trade by air: over £8.5 billion in 1976

Air transport accounted for 15 per cent of the United Kingdom's combined export and import trade in 1976 – a rise of 10 per cent since 1960.

The value of UK trade – exports and imports together – by air on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis increased between 1960 (the earliest year given in table 1) and 1976 from £444 million, 5 per cent of total UK trade, to £8,564 million, 15 per cent of total UK trade.

Exports by air during this period increased from £230 million to £4,411 million while imports by air rose from £214 million to £4,153 million. The value of trade by air as a proportion of both exports and imports increased steadily year by year to 1973 but the sharp rise in 1974 in the value of oil imports (which are transported by sea) caused a fall of nearly 2 per cent in the proportion of air imports to total imports in that year. The proportion then increased by ½ per cent in 1975 (as the volume of oil imports dropped) but fell slightly again last year, when imports by air at £4,153 million accounted for 13 per cent of total imports. Exports by air in 1976, valued at £4,411 million, accounted for 17 per cent of total exports, much the same as in 1975 but ½ per cent lower than in 1974. As shown in table 1 the value of exports delivered by air increased by 30 per cent in 1976 compared with the 29 per cent rise in total exports while imports by air rose by 26 per cent compared with the 29 per cent rise in total imports.

Air trade is naturally concentrated in items which have a high value to weight ratio. This is illustrated by a comparison of tables 1 and 1A. These show that air exports accounted for 17 per cent of total exports by value in 1976 but by weight they were only ½ per cent of total shipments. The corresponding figures for imports are 13 per cent and one-tenth of 1 per cent.

By weight, total exports rose by 9 per cent between 1975 and 1976 while air exports fell by 1 per cent. The weight of total imports rose by 4 per cent in 1976 but air imports were 4 per cent lower.

As shown in tables 2 and 2A, a substantial part of the rise in the value of exports by air in 1976 was accounted for by the increased value of deliveries on non-metallic mineral manufactures. The value of these goods exported by air increased by £412 million (62 per cent) as against 1975. They accounted for 24 per cent of total air exports in 1976 and 20 per cent in 1975. The weight increased only by 1 per cent as diamonds, which form the main part, by value, of these manufactures, have a particularly high value in relation to weight. Sixty-two per cent, by value, of the exports of non-metallic mineral manufactures were shipped by air last year, but under ½ per cent by weight. Exports of machinery by air including parts increased in value by 19 per cent to £1,431 million in 1976 (slightly less than the rate of increase in total machinery exports). The importance of machinery exports in total air exports fell slightly between 1975 and 1976 from 35 per cent to 33 per cent. There was a small reduction in weight of this commodity exported by air in 1976. Exports of non-ferrous metals by air increased to £119 million, 29 per cent up on 1975 when there was a reduction of 44 per cent on the 1974 level. The proportion of non-ferrous metal exports freighted by air continued to fall in 1976, to 16 per cent by value, against 24 per cent two years earlier. Shipments of clothing by air increased by £48 million to £149 million although the proportion of clothing exports by air to total clothing exports fell by 2 per cent in 1976. The value of exports of live animals increased by £1 million in 1976 and represented 42 per cent of total exports of this commodity. Commodities of this kind and perishable goods such as fruit and vegetables are often flown by air as it is important that they are in transit for as short a time as possible. The value of exports by air of transport equipment increased by £56 million in 1976 but there was a reduction in weight of 17 per cent. Chemical elements and compounds and medicinal and pharmaceutical products were other commodities exported by air in 1976 that rose in value but dropped in weight.

In 1976 imports by air were £866 million higher (26 per cent) than

TABLE 1 **Value of air trade compared with total trade**

	Exports fob					Imports cif				
Year	Total £ million	Change on previous year %	By air £ million	Change on previous year %	Air exports as proportion of total exports %	Total £ million	Change on previous year %	By air £ million	Change on previous year %	Air imports as proportion of total imports %
1960	3,794	..	230	..	6.1	4,655	..	214	..	4.6
1961	3,968	5	286	24	7.2	4,546	−2	253	18	5.6
1962	4,072	3	309	8	7.6	4,636	2	279	10	6.0
1963	4,378	8	348	13	7.9	4,989	8	312	12	6.3
1964	4,600	5	374	7	8.1	5,703	14	383	23	6.7
1965	4,933	7	457	22	9.3	5,760	1	447	17	7.8
1966	5,275	7	571	25	10.8	5,951	3	548	23	9.2
1967	5,245	0	621	9	11.8	6,440	8	645	18	10.0
1968	6,442	23	840	35	13.0	7,900	23	931	44	11.8
1969	7,351	14	991	18	13.5	8,317	5	1,085	17	13.0
1970	8,076	10	1,110	12	13.7	9,040	9	1,223	13	13.5
1971	9,186	14	1,309	18	14.2	9,825	9	1,339	9	13.6
1972	9,760	6	1,553	19	15.9	11,143	13	1,590	19	14.3
1973	12,504	28	2,161	39	17.3	15,852	42	2,378	50	15.0
1974	16,600	33	2,914	35	17.6	23,235	47	3,059	29	13.2
1975	19,921	20	3,383	16	17.0	24,128	4	3,287	7	13.7
1976	25,778	29	4,411	30	17.1	31,213	29	4,153	26	13.3

TABLE 1(A) **Air trade by weight compared with total trade by weight**

	Exports					Imports				
Year	Total '000s tonnes	Change on previous year %	By air '000s tonnes	Change on previous year %	Air exports as proportion of total exports %	Total '000s tonnes	Change on previous year %	By air '000s tonnes	Change on previous year %	Air imports as proportion of total imports %
1974	54 849	..	364	..	0.7	215 005	..	254	..	0.1
1975	52 016	−5	270	−26	0.5	178 834	−17	189	−26	0.1
1976	56 845	+9	268	−1	0.5	186 788	+4	181	−4	0.1

*Note to table *(A)*: Weight data for total trade are not available before 1974, since all exports and imports have only been expressed in common weight units (ie tonnes) from that date.

in 1975 but there was reduction in weight of 8000 tonnes (4 per cent). Table 3 shows that around one-third of the increase in value was due to greater imports by air of non-metallic mineral manufactures. Imports by air of this commodity group, which includes diamonds, accounted for 78 per cent of the total imports of these manufactures in 1976. The value of machinery imported by air including parts increased by £365 million and the importance of machinery imports by air, in total air arrivals, increased slightly. Transport equipment imports by air rose by £28 million in 1976. There was also a rise of £36 million in the value of imports by air of chemical elements and compounds but a reduction of £23 million in the value of non-ferrous metals. By value, 10 per cent of non-ferrous metal imports were delivered by air in 1976, compared with 16 per cent the previous year. Table 3A indicates that the weights of air imports by commodity generally varied little between 1975 and 1976. Imports of machinery, other than electric, however, fell by 7000 tonnes in 1976, and there was a reduction of 3000 tonnes in arrivals of textiles by air.

Tables 4 and 4A give information on the distribution of air exports to major areas of the world, both by value and by weight. The deliveries by air to Western Europe accounted for 55 per cent of the increase of £1,028 million in the value of total air exports in 1976. There was however a reduction in weight of 10 per cent. These disparate movements are probably, at least in part, accounted for by the rise in exports of precious stones in 1976. Exports by air to the oil exporting countries rose by 61 per cent in value increasing the share of total air exports to 12 per cent in 1976. By weight there was a rise of a quarter to 66 000 tonnes.

More information on UK air exports by area is given in tables 5 and 5A. Again reflecting the trade in precious stones. Switzerland was the UK's largest single market by value for exports by air in 1976, having been second to the USA in 1975. By weight however, the USA was substantially the most important single air market in each year (with Nigeria second). Deliveries to Switzerland increased by £193 million last year to £677 million, accounting for 15 per cent of all air exports and 68 per cent of total exports to Switzerland by value. Weight figures, only available for Switzerland and Austria

TABLE 2 Commodity composition of exports fob by value

Selected divisions	1975				1976			
			Air exports as a proportion of:				Air exports as a proportion of:	
	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total exports of commodity %	Total air exports %	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total exports of commodity %	Total air exports %
00 Live animals	53	25	47	1	62	26	42	1
21 Hides and skins	102	29	28	1	158	43	27	1
51 Chemical elements and compounds	653	47	7	1	1,046	70	7	2
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	373	154	41	5	453	181	40	4
55 Essential oils and perfumes	169	7	4	0	236	10	4	0
61 Leather and leather manufactures, not elsewhere specified	99	33	33	1	148	51	34	1
62 Rubber manufactures, not elsewhere specified	221	8	4	0	300	11	4	0
65 Textile yarn, etc	699	60	9	2	934	84	9	2
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, not elsewhere specified	1,178	660	56	20	1,731	1,072	62	24
68 Non-ferrous metals	539	92	17	3	722	119	16	3
69 Manufactures of metal, not elsewhere specified	616	36	6	1	800	51	6	1
71 Machinery other than electric	4,252	751	18	22	5,058	837	17	19
72 Electrical machinery	1,530	449	29	13	2,004	594	30	14
73 Transport equipment	2,451	251	10	7	3,064	307	10	7
84 Clothing	266	101	38	3	412	149	36	3
85 Footwear	53	8	15	0	68	13	19	0
86 Professional and scientific instruments	518	170	33	5	629	213	34	5
89 Miscellaneous manufactures, not elsewhere specified	782	232	30	7	1,060	324	31	7
All other goods	5,367	270	5	8	6,893	256	4	6
Total	19,921	3,383	17.0	100	25,778	4,411	17.1	100

TABLE 2(A) Commodity composition of exports fob by weight

Selected divisions	1975				1976			
			Air exports as a proportion of:				Air exports as a proportion of:	
	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total exports of commodity %	Total air exports %	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total exports of commodity %	Total air exports %
00 Live animals	60	6	10	2	55	7	13	3
21 Hides and skins	88	1	1	0	72	1	1	0
51 Chemical elements and compounds	2 900	6	0	2	3 358	3	0	1
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	87	10	11	4	83	9	11	3
55 Essential oils and perfumes	233	2	1	1	285	2	1	1
61 Leather and leather manufactures, not elsewhere specified	22	3	14	1	25	3	12	1
62 Rubber manufactures, not elsewhere specified	223	3	1	1	271	3	1	1
65 Textile yarn, etc.	352	11	3	4	425	13	3	5
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, not elsewhere specified	2 195	4	0	1	2 125	6	0	2
68 Non-ferrous metals	505	2	0	1	545	2	0	1
69 Manufactures of metal, not elsewhere specified	912	11	1	4	889	11	1	4
71 Machinery other than electric	2 262	69	3	25	1 987	58	3	22
72 Electrical machinery	555	24	4	9	584	27	5	10
73 Transport equipment	1 792	29	2	11	1 871	24	1	9
84 Clothing	32	8	25	3	45	12	27	4
85 Footwear	15	2	13	1	15	2	13	1
86 Professional and scientific instruments	81	10	12	4	78	11	14	4
89 Miscellaneous manufactures, not elsewhere specified	308	31	10	11	365	35	10	13
All other goods	39 394	38	0	14	43 767	38	0	14
Total	52 016	270	0.5	100	56 845	268	0.5	100

TABLE 3 Commodity composition of imports cif by value

	1975				1976			
			Air imports as a proportion of:				Air imports as a proportion of:	
Selected divisions	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total imports of commodity %	Total air imports %	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total imports of commodity %	Total air imports %
00 Live animals	108	9	8	0	84	10	12	0
05 Fruit and vegetables	691	17	2	1	948	18	2	0
21 Hides and skins	107	36	34	1	172	62	36	2
28 Metalliferous ores and scrap	470	65	14	2	686	92	13	2
51 Chemical elements and compounds	675	53	8	2	875	89	10	2
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	97	47	48	2	139	64	46	2
55 Essential oils and perfumes	69	11	16	0	97	17	18	0
61 Leather and leather manufactures, not elsewhere specified	69	10	14	0	108	20	19	1
62 Rubber manufactures, not elsewhere specified	97	7	7	0	131	9	7	0
65 Textile yarn, etc.	682	66	10	2	911	75	8	2
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, not elsewhere specified	1,063	797	75	24	1,385	1,074	78	26
68 Non-ferrous metals	819	132	16	4	1,039	109	10	3
69 Manufactures of metal, not elsewhere specified	332	38	11	1	415	49	12	1
71 Machinery other than electric	2,556	703	28	21	3,254	894	27	22
72 Electrical machinery	1,046	425	41	13	1,383	599	43	14
73 Transport equipment	1,179	94	8	3	1,752	122	7	3
84 Clothing	505	113	22	4	684	140	20	3
85 Footwear	123	13	11	1	165	17	10	0
86 Professional and scientific instruments	447	207	46	6	575	263	46	6
89 Miscellaneous manufactures, not elsewhere specified	643	206	32	6	847	269	32	7
All other goods	12,350	238	2	7	15,563	161	1	4
Total	24,128	3,287	13.7	100	31,213	4,153	13.3	100

TABLE 3(A) Commodity composition of imports cif by weight

	1975				1976			
			Air imports as a proportion of:				Air imports as a proportion of:	
Selected divisions	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total imports of commodity %	Total air imports %	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total imports of commodity %	Total air imports %
00 Live animals	239	1	0	1	149	1	1	1
05 Fruit and vegetables	3 365	32	1	17	3 930	32	1	18
21 Hides and skins	70	1	1	1	69	2	3	1
28 Metalliferous ores and scrap	17 596	0	0	0	21 218	0	0	0
51 Chemical elements and compounds	2 570	1	0	1	2 904	2	0	1
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	10	2	20	1	12	1	8	1
55 Essential oils and perfumes	43	1	2	1	52	1	2	1
61 Leather and leather manufactures, not elsewhere specified	34	1	3	1	41	2	5	1
62 Rubber manufactures not elsewhere specified	94	1	1	1	106	1	1	1
65 Textile yarn, etc.	411	12	3	6	468	9	2	5
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures not elsewhere specified	672	3	0	1	659	2	0	1
68 Non-ferrous metals	1 176	3	0	1	1 320	3	0	1
69 Manufactures of metal not elsewhere specified	350	6	2	3	268	5	2	3
71 Machinery other than electric	823	38	5	20	813	31	4	17
72 Electrical machinery	215	15	7	8	263	16	6	9
73 Transport equipment	786	8	1	4	872	7	1	4
84 Clothing	95	13	14	7	107	14	13	8
85 Footwear	51	2	4	1	58	2	3	1
86 Professional and scientific instruments	54	7	13	4	59	8	14	4
89 Miscellaneous manufactures, not elsewhere specified	267	13	5	7	285	14	5	8
All other goods	149 913	29	0	15	153 135	28	0	15
Total	178 834	189	0.1	100	186 788	181	0.1	100

TABLE 4 Exports fob to various areas by value

	1975				1976			
			Air exports as a proportion of:				Air exports as a proportion of:	
	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total exports to area %	Total air exports %	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total exports to area %	Total air exports %
EEC	6,417	982	15	29	9,174	1,313	14	30
Rest of Western Europe	3,369	707	21	21	4,275	946	22	21
North America	2,331	639	27	19	3,101	774	25	17
Other developed countries	1,879	245	13	7	1,943	267	14	6
Latin America	688	62	9	2	759	75	10	2
Middle East and North Africa	2,228	384	17	11	2,896	561	19	13
Other developing countries	2,284	330	14	10	2,848	437	15	10
Centrally planned economies	666	34	5	1	726	38	5	1
Low value trade	59	..	..	..	56	..	..	..
World	19,921	3,383	17.0	100	25,778	4,411	17.1	100
of which								
Oil exporting countries	2,277	330	14	10	3,143	532	17	12

taken together, show that they remained at only 2 per cent of total air exports in 1976 and 1 per cent of all exports to these countries. Air exports to the USA rose by 24 per cent to £646 million, 15 per cent of all exports by air (13 per cent by weight) and 26 per cent of total exports to the USA. The high percentage in value terms of exports by air in proportion to total shipments to Israel and to Belgium and Luxembourg, 31 per cent and 41 per cent, respectively, is again due to the diamond trade. Among the oil exporting countries, exports by air to two of our largest markets increased in value, Nigeria by 56 per cent and Saudi Arabia by 100 per cent. In each case there was also a rise in weight. Shipments by air to India, however, which rose by 69 per cent in value in 1976, fell in weight.

Tables 6 and 6A, covering imports from various areas, indicate that as in 1975 Western Europe and North America accounted for the largest proportion of deliveries to UK by air. Western Europe accounted for 43 per cent of all air imports by value in 1976 and 40 per cent by weight. In the same period North America accounted for 30 per cent of air imports by value and 31 per cent by weight.

Imports by air from Western Europe increased by 30 per cent to £1,790 million and from North America also increased by 30 per

TABLE 4(A) **Exports fob to various areas by weight**

	1975				1976			
			Air exports as a proportion of:				Air exports as a proportion of:	
	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total exports to area %	Total air exports %	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total exports to area %	Total air exports %
EEC	27 929	77	0.3	29	31 497	69	0.2	26
Rest of Western Europe	10 615	28	0.3	10	10 870	26	0.2	10
North America	3 141	51	1.6	19	4 013	45	1.1	16
Other developed countries	1 923	14	0.7	5	1 816	16	0.9	6
Latin America	825	6	0.7	2	900	5	0.6	2
Middle East and North Africa	2 854	38	1.3	14	2 611	49	1.9	18
Other developing countries	3 685	53	1.4	20	4 226	56	1.3	21
Centrally planned economies	1 045	3	0.3	1	911	3	0.3	1
World	52 016	270	0.5	100	56 845	268	0.5	100
of which								
Oil exporting countries	3 344	53	1.6	20	3 569	66	1.8	25

TABLE 5 **Exports fob to selected countries by value**

	1975				1976			
			Air exports as a proportion of:				Air exports as a proportion of:	
Selected countries	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total exports to country %	Total air exports %	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total exports to country %	Total air exports %
EEC								
Belgium and Luxembourg	923	252	27	8	1,401	431	31	10
Denmark	443	25	6	1	655	34	6	1
France	1,164	204	18	6	1,710	245	14	6
Irish Republic	907	75	8	2	1,247	89	7	2
Italy	563	96	17	3	826	116	14	3
Netherlands	1,114	89	8	3	1,500	110	7	2
West Germany	1,303	240	18	7	1,834	289	16	7
Rest of Western Europe								
Austria	165	20	12	1	212	22	10	0
Portugal	157	15	10	0	223	20	9	0
Spain	295	43	15	1	368	51	14	1
Sweden	825	57	7	2	1,045	67	6	1
Switzerland	805	484	60	14	1,000	677	68	15
North America								
USA	1,776	523	29	15	2,449	646	26	15
Canada	538	115	21	3	628	124	20	3
Other developed countries								
Australia	632	67	11	2	688	77	11	2
Japan	309	96	31	3	359	103	29	2
South Africa	684	66	10	2	645	70	11	2
Latin America								
Brazil	161	25	16	1	174	26	15	1
Middle East and North Africa								
Iran	495	46	9	1	511	55	11	1
Israel	237	103	43	3	249	103	41	2
Saudi Arabia	200	49	25	1	400	98	25	2
Other developing countries								
Hong Kong	160	31	19	1	204	42	21	1
India	165	36	22	1	207	61	29	1
Nigeria	512	85	17	3	774	133	17	3
Sierra Leone	21	2	10	0	18	1	6	0
Singapore	157	27	17	1	168	30	18	1
Centrally planned economies								
Soviet Union	211	4	2	0	240	4	2	0
Total selected countries	14,922	2,875	19	85	19,735	3,724	19	84
All other countries	4,940	508	10	15	5,987	687	11	16
Low value trade	59	..	..	..	56	..	..	..
World	19,921	3,383	17.0	100	25,778	4,411	17.1	100
of which								
Oil exporting countries	2,277	330	14	10	3,143	532	17	12

cent to £1,227 million. The weight of arrivals from Western Europe changed very little but there was a reduction of 18 per cent (10 000 tonnes) in the weight of air imports from North America. Imports by air from the Middle East and North Africa, from the centrally planned economies and from other developing countries increased in value by 65 per cent, 37 per cent and 26 per cent, respectively.

Further information on the breakdown of areas of UK imports is given on tables 7 and 7A. There was an increase in the value of imports by air arriving from all the countries in the EEC, with Denmark showing the highest rise of 53 per cent but still being our smallest source of air imports among the European community countries. Air arrivals from Belgium and Luxembourg increased by 48 per cent. By weight however, there was little change in deliveries from any of the EEC countries. Imports by air from USA accounted for 27 per cent of total air imports by value and 29 per cent by weight. Air imports are high in relation to total imports from Switzerland, South Africa and Sierra Leone in 1976 where the trade in diamonds is responsible.

Notes

The valuation of exports and imports in this article is on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis. While estimates for total trade are published on a balance of payments basis in the monthly trade article, the adjust-

TABLE 5(A) Exports to selected countries by weight

	1975				1976			
			Air exports as a proportion of:				Air exports as a proportion of:	
	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total exports to country %	Total exports %	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total exports to country %	Total air exports %
EEC								
Belgium and Luxembourg	3 471	8	0.2	3	4 278	7	0.2	3
Denmark	2 781	2	0.1	1	3 218	2	0.1	1
France	3 799	14	0.4	5	4 757	14	0.3	5
Irish Republic	5 075	15	0.3	5	6 067	14	0.2	5
Italy	1 435	7	0.5	3	2 092	8	0.4	3
Netherlands	7 519	15	0.2	5	6 535	10	0.2	4
West Germany	3 849	15	0.4	5	4 549	14	0.3	5
Rest of Western Europe								
Austria and Switzerland	476	6	1.3	2	462	6	1.3	2
Portugal	528	2	0.4	1	483	2	0.4	1
Spain	1 242	6	0.5	2	1 108	4	0.4	1
Sweden	4 344	5	0.1	2	5 108	4	0.1	1
North America								
USA	2 555	39	1.5	15	3 385	34	1.0	13
Canada	586	12	2.1	4	568	10	1.8	4
Other developed countries								
Australia	667	5	0.7	2	654	5	0.8	2
Japan	202	3	1.5	1	240	5	2.1	2
South Africa and South West Africa	755	6	0.8	2	624	5	0.8	2
Latin America								
Brazil	195	2	1.0	1	210	2	1.0	1
Middle East and North Africa								
Iran	677	6	0.9	2	457	5	1.1	2
Israel	159	2	1.3	1	161	1	0.6	0
Saudi Arabia	198	5	2.5	2	312	7	2.2	2
Other developing countries								
Hong Kong	164	1	0.6	1	170	2	1.2	1
India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim	193	3	1.6	1	270	2	0.7	1
Nigeria	996	18	1.8	7	1 286	23	1.8	8
Sierra Leone and Guinea	128	0	0.0	0	104	0	0.0	0
Singapore, Malaysia	276	3	1.1	1	304	2	0.7	1
Centrally planned economies								
Soviet Union	300	0	0.0	0	268	0	0.0	0
Total selected countries	42 570	200	0.5	74	47 670	188	0.4	70
All other countries	9 446	70	0.7	26	9 175	80	0.9	30
World	52 016	270	0.5	100	56 845	268	0.5	100
of which								
Oil exporting countries	1 870	29	1.6	11	2 055	34	1.7	13

TABLE 6 Imports cif from various areas by value

	1975				1976			
			Air imports as a proportion of:				Air imports as a proportion of:	
	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total imports from area %	Total air imports %	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total imports from area %	Total air imports %
EEC	8,786	810	9	25	11,396	1,069	9	26
Rest of Western Europe	3,571	572	16	17	4,584	721	16	17
North America	3,207	944	29	29	4,219	1,227	29	30
Other developed countries	1,849	390	21	12	2,124	383	18	9
Latin America	627	34	5	1	705	33	5	1
Middle East and North Africa	3,023	62	2	2	4,095	102	2	2
Other developing countries	2,292	301	13	9	2,925	380	13	9
Centrally planned economies	735	174	24	5	1,133	238	21	6
Low value trade	38	..	..	..	31	..	..	..
World	24,128	3,287	13.7	100	31,213	4,153	13.3	100
of which								
Oil exporting countries	3,279	49	1	1	4,210	77	2	2

ments to that basis are not available for the analysis of trade by air.

No allowance is made either in the totals of trade or in the figures of trade by air for under-recording of exports.

Complete newly-built aircraft and ships exported and imported under their own power are included in the value totals for all United Kingdom trade but are excluded from the figures of trade by air and from the weight statistics.

Imports and exports of parcel post and low value items not classified according to kind are excluded from the trade by air and the weight statistics.

Further data on trade by air may be obtained from the Controller, Statistical Office, HM Customs and Excise, Portcullis House, 27 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, SS2 6AL, on payment of a fee to cover the cost of preparing the information.

Symbols

. . *Figures not available.*

0 Less than half the unit shown.

Inquiries: 01-215 3155.

TABLE 6(A) Imports from various areas by weight

	1975				1976			
			Air imports as a proportion of:				Air imports as a proportion of:	
	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total imports from area %	Total air imports %	Total '000s tonnes	By air '000s tonnes	Total imports from area %	Total air imports %
EEC	38 040	50	0.1	26	38 712	50	0.1	28
Rest of Western Europe	17 667	24	0.1	13	22 594	23	0.1	13
North America	13 145	66	0.5	35	15 028	56	0.4	31
Other developed countries	7 553	7	0.1	4	6 900	7	0.1	4
Latin America	9 541	3	0.0	1	8 108	3	0.0	1
Middle East and North Africa	72 626	6	0.0	3	73 277	7	0.0	4
Other developing countries	14 907	30	0.2	16	13 716	33	0.2	18
Centrally planned economies	5 354	4	0.1	2	8 453	1	0.0	1
World	178 834	189	0.1	100	186 788	181	0.1	100
of which								
Oil exporting countries	82 321	3	0.0	2	78 579	3	0.0	2

TABLE 7 Imports cif from selected countries by value

	1975				1976			
			Air imports as a proportion of:				Air imports as a proportion of:	
Selected countries	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total imports from country %	Total air imports %	Total £ million	By air £ million	Total imports from country %	Total air imports %
EEC								
Belgium and Luxembourg	951	129	14	4	1,300	191	15	5
Denmark	621	17	3	1	705	26	4	1
France	1,622	234	14	7	2,091	282	13	7
Irish Republic	922	46	5	1	1,008	63	6	2
Italy	807	68	8	2	1,106	91	8	2
Netherlands	1,862	79	4	2	2,428	93	4	2
West Germany	2,001	238	12	7	2,757	324	12	8
Rest of Western Europe								
Austria	204	13	6	0	232	16	7	0
Portugal	201	41	20	1	199	28	14	1
Spain	275	16	6	1	360	18	5	0
Sweden	885	33	4	1	1,188	36	3	1
Switzerland	736	443	60	13	963	580	60	14
North America								
USA	2,239	853	38	26	3,044	1,121	37	27
Canada	855	86	10	3	1,160	101	9	2
Other developed countries								
Australia	279	11	4	0	394	18	5	0
Japan	673	63	9	2	796	76	10	2
South Africa	631	314	50	10	613	285	46	7
Latin America								
Brazil	175	9	5	0	239	11	5	0
Middle East and North Africa								
Iran	701	7	1	0	1,049	8	1	0
Israel	91	13	14	0	128	17	13	0
Saudi Arabia	857	8	1	0	978	25	3	1
Other developing countries								
Hong Kong	307	49	16	2	440	57	13	1
India	235	93	40	3	355	125	35	3
Nigeria	313	3	1	0	317	8	3	0
Sierra Leone	33	27	82	1	36	30	83	1
Singapore	65	16	25	1	94	19	20	1
Centrally planned economies								
Soviet Union	391	164	42	5	667	225	34	5
Total selected countries	18,932	3,073	16	93	24,647	3,874	16	93
All other countries	5,158	214	4	7	6,535	279	4	7
Low value trade	38	. .	. .	. .	31	. .	. .	. .
World	24,128	3,287	13.7	100	31,213	4,153	13.3	100
of which								
Oil exporting countries	3,279	49	2	2	4,210	77	2	2

TABLE 7(A) Imports from selected countries by weight

Selected countries	1975 Total '000s tonnes	1975 By air '000s tonnes	1975 Air imports as a proportion of: Total imports from country %	1975 Air imports as a proportion of: Total air imports %	1976 Total '000s tonnes	1976 By air '000s tonnes	1976 Air imports as a proportion of: Total imports from country %	1976 Air imports as a proportion of: Total air imports %
EEC								
Belgium and Luxembourg	4 786	8	0.2	4	4 941	7	0.1	4
Denmark	1 469	1	0.1	0	1 360	1	0.1	1
France	5 348	11	0.2	6	5 651	10	0.2	5
Irish Republic	5 279	7	0.1	4	3 601	8	0.2	4
Italy	2 308	6	0.2	3	3 217	5	0.2	3
Netherlands	15 036	6	0.0	3	15 801	6	0.0	3
West Germany	3 815	13	0.3	7	4 141	13	0.3	7
Rest of Western Europe								
Austria and Switzerland	542	5	0.9	3	508	4	0.8	2
Portugal	445	2	0.5	1	580	2	0.3	1
Spain	1 467	9	0.6	5	1 769	7	0.4	4
Sweden	5 688	2	0.0	1	7 113	2	0.0	1
North America								
USA	6 029	61	1.0	32	6 167	52	0.8	29
Canada	7 116	4	0.1	2	8 862	4	0.0	2
Other developed countries								
Australia	4 376	1	0.0	1	4 031	1	0.1	1
Japan	881	4	0.5	2	560	4	0.7	2
South Africa and South West Africa	1 766	1	0.1	1	1 778	2	0.1	1
Latin America								
Brazil	2 834	1	0.0	0	3 855	1	0.0	1
Middle East and North Africa								
Iran	17 757	0	0.0	0	20 033	0	0.0	0
Israel	442	4	0.9	2	552	4	0.7	2
Saudi Arabia	22 328	0	0.0	0	18 609	0	0.0	0
Other developing countries								
Hong Kong	126	6	4.8	3	137	4	2.9	2
India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim	363	8	2.2	4	592	10	1.7	6
Nigeria	6 121	1	0.0	0	4 106	1	0.0	1
Sierra Leone, and Guinea	51	0	0.0	0	50	0	0.0	0
Malaysia, Singapore	638	1	0.2	1	673	1	0.2	1
Centrally planned economies								
Soviet Union	3 591	3	0.1	2	6 160	0	0.0	0
Total selected countries	120 603	165	0.1	87	124 845	150	0.1	83
All other countries	58 231	24	0.0	13	61 943	31	0.1	17
World	178 834	189	0.1	100	186 788	181	0.1	100
of which								
Oil exporting countries	46 206	2	0.0	1	42 748	2	0.0	1

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in July

Information in the table below is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in July. The dates are those which departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet.

Information about the early part of the month was published last week (page 647).

	Method of release	Source
11 Mon		
Central government financial transactions (including borrowing requirement) (June)	PN	HM Treasury
Wholesale price index numbers (June — prov)		Department of Industry
Appropriation account of industrial and commercial companies (1st qtr)	PN	CSO
12 Tues		
Provisional figures of vehicle production (June)	PN	Department of Industry
13 Wed		
Building societies receipts and loans (June)	PN	BSA
14 Thurs		
UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-June)	PN	Bank of England
London dollar and sterling certificates of deposit (mid-June)	PN	Bank of England
Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures (June)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
15 Fri		
Usable steel production (June)	PN	BSC/BISPA
Retail prices index (June)	PN	Department of Employment
18 Mon		
Index of industrial production (May)	PN	CSO
Retail sales (June – prov)	PN	Department of Trade
Construction – new orders (May)	PN	Department of the Environment
20 Wed		
Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (June)	PN	Department of Employment
Monthly index of average earnings (May)		
21 Thurs		
Consumers' expenditure (2nd qtr – 1st preliminary estimate)	PN	CSO
Financial accounts of industrial and commercial companies and personal sectors (1st qtr)	PN	CSO
Net acquisition of financial assets – analysis by sector (1st qtr)		
22 Fri		
Sales and orders in the engineering industries (April)	Trade and Industry	Department of Industry
New vehicle registrations (June)	PN	Department of Transport
24 Sun		
National Savings monthly progress report (June)	PN	National Savings Committee
25 Mon		
Bricks and cement production (June)	PN	Department of the Environment
26 Tues		
Unemployment (July – prov)	PN	Department of Employment
Unfilled vacancies (July – prov)		
28 Thurs		
Unemployment (June – final)	Gazette	Department of Employment
Employment in production industries (May)		
Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (May)		
Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (June)		
Quarterly estimates of employees in employment (March)		
Car and commercial vehicle production (June – final)	PN	Department of Industry
Energy Trends	PN	Department of Energy
CBI Industrial Trends Survey (July)	PN	CBI

PN = Press notice

Metal-working machine tools: sales and orders in March

Statistics of manufacturers sales and orders for metal-working machine tools up to and including March 1977 are shown in table 1. These monthly statistics will be published in the Business Monitor PM 332, and full details of the quarterly inquiry will be published in Business Monitor PQ 332.

The monthly estimates up to and including September 1976 have been adjusted to be consistent with the more comprehensive quarterly inquiry recently published, and the latest provisional estimates will be revised when the appropriate information becomes available. Net new orders and orders-on-hand have been adjusted to the same basis of coverage and valuation as sales.

Summary

Provisional statistics for the first quarter of 1977 now available confirm the steady recovery in demand and output of the machine tools industry. In current value terms, sales both at home and abroad have continued to rise, with an overall increase for the three months to March 1977 of 8 per cent over the previous three months. Deliveries to both home and overseas markets reflect a strong upward trend since about the middle of last year, which is only partly accounted for by higher prices.

Home and export demand have both continued to rise strongly as shown by very marked increases in the inflow of new orders and in growing order books. The statistics to March 1977 confirm that the expansion is mainly in the volume of new business. The estimates for employment also show an increase, with a rise of a further 200 employees during March.

Recent trends for machine tools

The latest statistics now available for the first three months of 1977 show that sales have increased significantly in current value terms compared with the previous three months. Total sales for the three months up to March 1977, at £104 million, were 8 per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1976, and 12 per cent higher than the same period a year ago; home sales accounted for a good part of this increase, having risen by 6 per cent over the previous quarter and by 30 per cent over the same quarter in 1976. Export sales have also increased when compared with the previous three months; at £40 million for the first quarter of 1977 they were 12 per cent higher than the previous quarter, but were still below the levels of a year ago. All of these rates of growth are greater than the rates of price increase over the same periods and it is clear that the volume of sales has been rising strongly for both the home and export markets since about the middle of last year.

TABLE 1 Metal-working machine tools: orders and sales £ million

	Sales			Orders outstanding*			New orders		
	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export
1970	218.6	137.3	81.3	159.5	86.8	72.7	213.9	130.8	83.1
1971	207.7	121.7	86.0	106.0	46.0	60.0	154.2	80.9	73.3
1972	184.7	111.6	73.1	113.3	55.7	57.6	192.0	121.3	70.7
1973	213.2	129.1	84.1	216.0	120.4	95.6	315.9	193.8	122.1
1974	254.4	149.9	104.5	312.9	164.1	148.8	347.9	191.9	156.0
1975 r	325.4	186.4	139.0	234.3	122.4	111.9	246.8	144.7	102.1
1976 p	351.3	205.8	145.5	201.6	111.3	90.3	318.6	194.7	123.9
1975 1st qtr r	80.4	47.6	32.8	297.3	154.1	143.2	64.8	37.6	27.2
2rd qtr r	77.9	45.6	32.3	284.5	144.0	140.5	65.1	35.5	29.6
3rd qtr r	80.8	44.9	35.9	252.7	122.9	129.8	49.0	23.8	25.2
4th qtr r	86.3	48.3	38.0	234.3	122.4	111.9	67.9	47.8	20.1
1976 1st qtr r	93.9	50.1	43.8	210.5	104.6	105.9	70.1	32.3	37.8
2nd qtr r	81.6	46.4	35.2	199.7	103.6	96.1	70.8	45.4	25.4
3rd qtr r	78.9	47.7	31.2	203.9	109.9	94.0	83.1	54.0	29.1
4th qtr p	96.9	61.6	35.3	201.6	111.3	90.3	94.6	63.0	31.6
1977 1st qtr p	104.8	65.2	39.6	215.1	111.7	103.4	118.3	65.6	52.7
1976 January r	29.9	17.0	12.9	230.3	112.2	118.1	25.9	6.8	19.1
February r	30.5	15.7	14.8	219.8	108.2	111.6	20.0	11.7	8.3
March r	33.5	17.4	16.1	210.5	104.6	105.9	24.2	13.8	10.4
April r	26.2	15.8	10.4	212.1	103.9	108.2	27.8	15.1	12.7
May r	28.6	14.7	13.9	199.5	100.4	99.1	16.0	11.2	4.8
June r	26.8	15.9	10.9	199.7	103.6	96.1	27.0	19.1	7.9
July r	26.6	15.6	11.9	199.3	105.6	93.7	26.2	17.6	8.6
August r	23.2	14.4	8.8	204.8	108.4	96.4	28.7	17.2	11.5
September r	29.1	17.7	11.4	203.9	109.9	94.0	28.2	19.2	9.0
October p	30.5	18.5	12.0	204.2	112.6	91.6	30.8	21.2	9.6
November p	31.7	21.2	10.5	205.1	114.3	90.8	32.6	22.9	9.7
December p	34.7	21.9	12.8	201.6	111.3	90.3	31.2	18.9	12.3
1977 January p	36.9	22.9	14.0	205.5	108.1	97.4	40.8	19.7	21.1
February p	31.2	18.4	12.8	210.4	111.6	98.8	36.1	21.9	14.2
March p	36.7	23.9	12.8	215.1	111.7	103.4	41.4	24.0	17.4
Three monthly totals:									
Jan to Mar 1977	104.8	65.2	39.6	215.1	111.7	103.4	118.3	65.6	52.7
Oct to Dec 1976	96.9	61.6	35.3	201.6	111.3	90.3	94.6	63.0	31.6
Jan to Mar 1976	93.9	50.1	43.8	210.5	104.6	105.9	70.1	32.3	37.8
Percentage change latest three months on:									
1 Previous 3 months	+8	+6	+12	+7	0	+15	+25	+4	+67
2 A year earlier	+12	+30	−9	+2	+7	−2	+69	+103	+39

p = provisional. r = revised.

* The values for orders outstanding relate to the ends of the periods shown.

Due to rounding, constituent figures may not sum to their respective totals.

The same is true also for the recent inflow of new home and export orders. The overall intake of new orders (net of cancellations) in the most recent three months showed a marked recovery on the level of the previous three months and earlier, with a rise of 25 per cent and a 69 per cent increase over the same period in 1976. Within this total, orders from abroad rose sharply by 67 per cent over the previous quarter and, at £52 million, were 39 per cent higher than the corresponding quarter in 1976. This sharp increase in the export sector has tended to overshadow the recovery of orders from the home market, which were, at £65 million, a further 4 per cent higher than the previous three months, after very strong growth throughout 1976. Hence the level in the first quarter was 103 per cent higher than the first quarter of 1976.

These increases in the inflow of orders after many months of poor demand, appear to represent the turning point before the general recovery associated with the cyclical upturn of manufacturing investment at home and abroad.

As the overall intake of new orders in the first quarter of 1977 has remained 13 per cent above the level of deliveries, order books have continued to increase since the beginning of 1977. Total orders outstanding at the end of March 1977, at £215 million in value terms were the highest since December 1975, an increase of 7 per cent over the previous three months and 2 per cent higher than the level of March 1976. The home order books have levelled off at £111 million virtually the same as the end of the previous three months but 7 per cent higher than a year ago. Export order books have continued to grow after a slight drop noticeable during the last quarter of 1976 and have now regained ground, increasing by 15 per cent over that period.

The total value of orders outstanding at the end of the first quarter of 1977 is estimated to represent on average about six months work in hand, though some manufacturers will have fuller order books, while for others the shortage of orders is still a matter of serious concern.

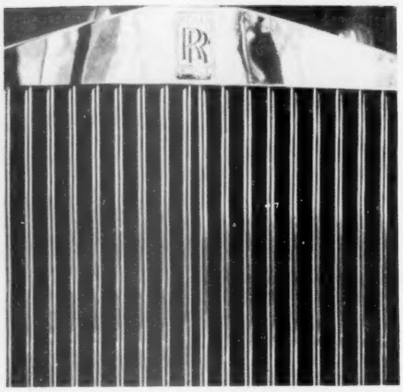
Included in table 2 is a specially prepared estimate of the employment in the industry covered by this article, ie part of MLH 332 concerned primarily with metal cutting and metal forming machine tools, but excluding welding equipment. The estimate for March 1977 showed that the industry has been looking on the brighter side; during that month it has taken on 200 employees and has reached 50 100, the highest total since the autumn of 1975.

TABLE 2 Metal-working machine tools: employment

Thousands

1974	1st qtr	52.9	1976	1st qtr p	49.6
	2nd qtr	53.2		2nd qtr p	49.4
	3rd qtr	54.4		3rd qtr p	49.5
	4th qtr	54.4			
				October p	49.7
1975	1st qtr	54.0		November p	49.7
	2nd qtr	53.0		December p	49.8
	3rd qtr	52.2			
	4th qtr p	50.6	1977	January p	49.9
				February p	49.9
				March p	50.1

Motor vehicle output in May



Production of cars in the four weeks ending 28 May of 133 617 units (33 404 per week) was 5 per cent above the level in May 1976. In the five months to May 1977, car production was 3 per cent below that of a year earlier. Production for export fell by 2 per cent and that for the home market fell by 4 per cent.

Production of commercial vehicles of 37 594 units (9399 per week) was 9 per cent higher than in May last year. In the first five months of 1977, commercial vehicle output rose by 11 per cent compared with the same period last year. Output for export rose by 10 per cent while that for the home market rose by 13 per cent.

(The summaries which follow are based on seasonally adjusted figures in table 2.)

Cars

May passenger car production of 124 000 units was 11 per cent above the monthly average for 1976. Output in the three months March to May rose by 9 per cent compared with the preceding three months; within the total, home market production increased by 20 per cent while production for export fell by 3 per cent.

Commercial vehicles

Commercial vehicle production of 35 400 units was 14 per cent above the monthly average for 1976. In the period March to May, output rose by 2 per cent compared with the preceding three months. Output for the home market was unchanged while that for export rose by 4 per cent.

Inquiries: 01-212 0788/0855.

TABLE 1 Car and commercial vehicle production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such an unassembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery-operated road vehicles are excluded.

	No of weeks	Passenger cars (including taxis) For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	Commercial road vehicles For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1968	52	1 01 163	802 773	1 815 936	34 922	259 331	149 855	409 186	7 869
1969	53	892 758	824 315	1 717 073	32 398	272 999	192 778	465 776	8 788
1970	52	918 109	722 857	1 640 966	31 557	267 407	190 125	457 532	8 799
1971	52	1 027 462	714 478	1 741 940	33 499	268 278	187 928	456 206	8 773
1972	52	1 307 881	613 430	1 921 311	36 948	272 649	135 470	408 119	7 848
1973	52	1 142 216	605 105	1 747 321	33 602	257 574	159 049	416 623	8 012
1974	52	937 932	596 187	1 534 119	29 502	232 373	170 193	402 566	7 742
1975	52	735 532	532 164	1 267 696	24 379	194 319	186 386	380 705	7 321
1976	53	768 481	564 968	1 333 449	25 159	182 554	189 503	372 057	7 020
1977	52								
1976									
1st qtr	13	209 955	148 844	358 799	27 600	44 978	48 785	93 763	7 213
2nd qtr	13	205 839	143 677	349 516	26 886	46 510	51 249	97 759	7 520
3rd qtr	13	145 427	108 233	253 660	19 512	36 730	39 225	75 955	5 843
4th qtr	14	207 260	164 214	371 474	26 534	54 336	50 244	104 580	7 470
1977									
1st qtr	13	181 025	137 426	318 451	24 496	51 614	55 128	106 742	8 211
2nd qtr	13								
3rd qtr	13								
4th qtr	13								
1976									
Jan	4	56 966	39 432	96 398	24 100	12 051	13 971	26 022	6 506
Feb	4	68 878	50 913	119 791	29 948	14 468	15 829	30 297	7 574
Mar	5	84 111	58 499	142 610	28 522	18 459	18 985	37 444	7 489
Apr	4	54 445	38 281	92 726	23 182	13 209	14 019	27 228	6 807
May	4	76 074	51 169	127 243	31 811	16 122	18 245	34 367	8 592
Jun	5	75 320	54 227	129 547	25 909	17 179	18 985	36 164	7 233
Jul	4	56 334	34 350	90 684	22 671	12 389	13 444	25 833	6 458
Aug	4	32 971	31 801	64 772	16 193	8 871	9 219	18 090	4 523
Sep	5	56 122	42 082	98 204	19 641	15 470	16 562	32 032	6 406
Oct	5	82 077	59 240	141 317	28 263	19 947	19 320	39 267	7 853
Nov	4	67 512	52 863	120 375	30 094	17 922	15 706	36 628	8 407
Dec	5	57 671	52 111	109 782	21 956	16 467	15 218	31 685	6 337
1977									
Jan	4	66 199	48 377	114 576	28 644	16 852	16 536	33 388	8 347
Feb	4	49 647	41 778	91 425	22 856	15 302	17 949	32 351	8 088
Mar	5	65 179	47 271	112 450	22 490	19 460	21 543	41 003	8 201
Apr	4	64 592	41 866	106 458	26 615	13 277	14 974	28 251	7 063
May	4	80 218	53 399	133 617	33 404	18 741	18 853	37 594	9 399
Jun	5								
Jul	4								
Aug	4								
Sep	5								
Oct	4								
Nov	4								
Dec	5								

Note: The number of vehicles produced for export shown in these tables differs from the number exported (which are shown in the overseas trade statistics) because of differences in timing and coverage.

TABLE 2 **Production seasonally adjusted**

MONTHLY AVERAGE Thousands

	Passenger cars For home market	For export	Total	Commercial vehicles For home market	For export	Total
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	15.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975	61	45	106	16.2	15.5	31.7
1976	64	47	111	15.2	15.8	31.0
1976						
1st qtr	67	49	116	14.7	16.9	31.6
2nd qtr	68	46	114	15.2	16.2	31.4
3rd qtr	62	44	106	15.0	15.4	30.4
4th qtr	59	48	107	15.9	14.7	30.6
1977						
1st qtr	57	45	102	16.7	18.8	35.5
2nd qtr						
3rd qtr						
4th qtr						
1976						
Jan	58	44	102	13.1	16.8	29.9
Feb	74	53	127	15.4	17.1	32.5
Mar	70	50	120	15.6	16.9	32.5
Apr	65	46	111	14.5	15.9	30.4
May	72	48	120	16.1	16.8	32.9
Jun	66	46	112	15.1	15.8	30.9
Jul	82	49	131	17.1	16.0	33.1
Aug	43	39	82	12.9	14.4	27.3
Sep	62	44	106	15.0	15.7	30.7
Oct	64	47	111	15.5	15.4	30.9
Nov	61	51	112	17.6	16.0	33.6
Dec	51	48	99	14.6	12.8	27.4
1977						
Jan	66	53	119	17.9	19.6	37.5
Feb	53	42	95	16.0	18.0	34.0
Mar	53	40	93	16.1	18.8	34.9
Apr	76	50	126	14.3	16.7	31.0
May	75	49	124	18.3	17.1	35.4
Average of						
Dec 76-Feb 77	57	48	105	16.2	16.8	33.0
Mar-May 1977	68	46	114	16.2	17.5	33.7
Percentage change	+20	−3	+9	N/C	+4	+2

Notes to table 2: The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

Chemicals: slow growth in 1977

Output

Output in the chemicals industry rose by 3 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1976 to give a level for the year 10 per cent above that for 1975. In the first quarter of 1977 output fell by about 1 per cent but this is thought to be only a temporary setback and further slow growth is expected for the rest of the year. Given the output achieved in the first four months of 1977 and the outlook for the UK economy published in the Financial Statement and Budget Report 1977-78 it seems unlikely that chemicals output will rise by as much as 5 per cent in 1977. The main stimulus to output is again expected to be exports as home demand seems likely to be flat through 1977 after the rise in the first quarter.

Organic chemicals, pharmaceuticals and synthetic resins and plastics materials are expected to be the more buoyant sectors of the industry as exports account for a high proportion of their outputs. Those industries which are more dependent on the home market, eg toilet preparations and soaps and detergents, are likely to be subdued.

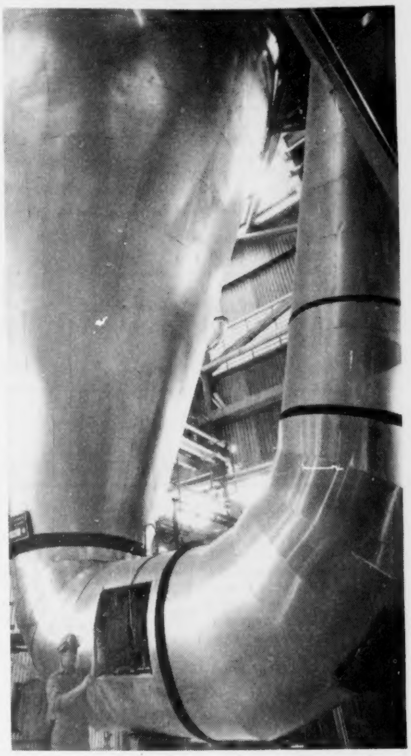
Trade

The volume of exports rose strongly in the fourth quarter of 1976 to give a substantial rise of 20 per cent in 1976 as a whole. The situation in the early part of 1977 has not been clear but in the five months to May the average level of export volume was 4½ per cent above that for 1976; this is equivalent to an annual rate of increase of 6¼ per cent. There has been some weakening in UK competitiveness during the first five months of 1977 and thus it now seems likely that export volume will do no more than increase in line with world trade.

Import volume rose sharply by 8 per cent in the first quarter of 1977 largely because of an exceptionally high increase in January. In the three months to May import volume fell by 2½ per cent and, with sluggish home demand expected, may not rise much in the remainder of the year.

Prices

The rate of increase in output prices quickened in the first quarter of 1977 probably as a result of the feeding through of some of the very sharp increases in the prices of materials and fuels purchases by the industry (input prices) in the second half of 1976. In the first quarter of 1977 the rise in input prices was 3 per cent, the smallest quarterly rise for nearly two years, which partly reflects the stability of sterling



This massive spray drier (the largest of its kind in Europe) at Albright and Wilson's Whitehaven factory is part of a big expansion of sodium tripolyphosphate production capacity.

TABLE 1 Index of production

Index numbers 1970 = 100, seasonally adjusted

MLH		1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1975 3rd qtr	1975 4th qtr	1976 1st qtr	1976 2nd qtr	1976 3rd qtr	1976 4th qtr	1977 1st qtr	% change last quarter on Previous quarter	% change last quarter on Same quarter a year earlier
271	General chemicals	100.7	104.5	119.2	134.5	114.7	129.7	109.6	120.9	125.1	130.9	129.9	132.8	131.3	−1	−5
271/1	Inorganic chemicals	101.1	99.2	109.2	114.8	95.7	104.1	91.0	91.8	98.1	104.6	106.2	107.3	106.0	−1	8
271/2	Organic chemicals	102.8	115.3	137.6	164.6	138.6	166.8	131.4	158.3	158.6	170.0	168.1	170.3	168.7	−1	6
271/3	Other chemicals	97.8	97.7	108.9	121.3	108.2	114.9	105.0	109.7	116.2	114.5	111.5	117.4	115.9	−1	—
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	107.0	115.7	136.4	145.9	148.4	156.2	141.2	148.6	149.7	152.2	159.7	163.3	158.0	−3	6
273	Toilet preparations	105.4	112.9	126.1	139.2	135.4	137.7	136.3	132.3	137.9	134.7	138.6	139.7	132.3	−5	−4
274	Paint	103.0	110.1	120.9	115.4	113.8	122.7	113.6	113.1	118.2	119.2	124.7	129.0	129.9	1	10
275	Soap and detergents	99.1	102.5	105.8	115.4	110.2	115.5	107.5	114.4	109.8	119.1	117.8	115.1	109.9	−5	—
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	101.1	110.8	126.6	119.4	101.4	122.7	99.5	112.2	122.5	121.8	120.7	125.7	131.0	4	7
276/2	Synthetic rubber	90.5	100.0	118.2	108.7	84.1	106.1	66.0	93.4	96.9	110.7	104.4	112.3	105.7	−6	9
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	97.0	106.7	112.2	118.6	98.1	112.2	94.6	99.2	106.3	112.7	114.4	115.2	118.8	3	12
278	Fertilisers	105.5	99.5	99.1	101.1	100.1	103.4	101.7	105.1	96.6	110.8	99.1	107.1	93.2	−13	−4
279	Other chemical industries	102.1	108.6	114.3	118.6	111.1	117.7	110.2	110.4	113.1	112.0	119.9	125.8	127.7	2	13
Order V	Chemical and allied industries	102.1	108.1	120.9	127.8	116.5	128.4	112.9	120.3	124.0	127.5	129.1	132.8	131.4	−1	6
	Total manufacturing industry	99.5	102.1	110.7	109.1	102.5	103.4	100.3	101.0	102.0	103.6	103.5	104.5	105.4	1	3

TABLE 2 Sales of principal products

£million, 1970 prices, not seasonally adjusted

MLH		1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1975 3rd qtr	1975 4th qtr	1976 1st qtr	1976 2nd qtr	1976 3rd qtr	1976 4th qtr	1977 1st qtr
271	General chemicals	1,194	1,203	1,254	1,433	1,624	1,384	1,572	320	365	391	401	380	400	
271/1	Inorganic chemicals	378	382	375	413	434	361	394	82	88	96	99	96	103	
271/2	Organic chemicals	462	475	533	635	760	640	771	147	180	190	200	188	193	
271/3	Other chemicals	354	346	346	385	430	383	407	91	97	105	102	96	104	
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	436	466	504	595	636	647	681	146	165	166	169	165	181	
273	Toilet preparations	162	171	183	204	225	216	223	59	57	48	52	62	61	
274	Paint	188	194	207	227	217	214	231	54	50	56	59	59	57	
275	Soap and detergents	221	219	227	234	255	243	256	58	63	64	64	64	64	
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials }	539	540	592	675	636	636	650	125	150	162	168	152	168	
276/2	Synthetic rubber }	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	141	137	150	158	167	139	159	32	35	39	40	39	41	
278	Fertilisers	162	171	161	161	164	162	168	43	38	41	46	42	39	
279	Other chemical industries	405	413	436	464	478	458	487	102	111	124	122	112	129	
Order V	Chemical and allied industries	3,488	3,514	3,714	4,151	4,402	3,999	4,427	939	1,034	1,091	1,121	1,075	1,140	

TABLE 3 Imports of principal products of the chemical industry

£million, cif current prices, not seasonally adjusted

									1975		1976				1977
MLH		1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
271	General chemicals	305.1	307.3	340.2	458.8	865.9	818.3	1,078.3	192.3	220.7	230.8	263.2	285.1	299.1	341.1
271/1	Inorganic chemicals	74.7	72.3	78.6	102.3	165.9	172.9	240.9	41.9	41.9	51.3	61.5	60.1	67.9	64.0
271/2	Organic chemicals	161.1	155.0	161.8	236.8	503.2	398.1	577.3	84.8	104.2	122.1	136.5	157.5	16.2	181.1
271/3	Other chemicals	69.3	79.9	99.8	119.7	196.8	247.4	260.1	65.7	74.6	57.4	65.2	67.5	70.0	96.0
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	39.5	43.3	50.6	76.5	110.1	115.2	164.9	29.4	33.7	38.5	37.9	40.1	48.4	52.5
273	Toilet preparations	5.1	6.2	9.0	15.1	21.2	25.3	31.2	6.6	6.4	6.0	6.8	9.4	9.0	10.7
274	Paint	5.4	5.9	7.3	9.9	14.8	13.9	21.2	3.4	4.3	4.5	5.4	5.2	6.3	6.7
275	Soap and detergents	7.1	7.9	11.4	12.8	24.4	17.4	24.2	4.1	4.6	5.6	6.4	5.5	6.7	7.7
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	106.4	110.7	133.0	189.4	340.5	243.7	432.9	61.7	71.4	91.2	106.7	113.6	121.3	134.2
276/2	Synthetic rubber	18.8	20.6	20.7	26.9	39.0	42.2	61.9	9.7	12.2	13.8	15.3	14.2	18.6	18.3
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	27.5	31.7	35.2	49.1	58.6	44.4	77.5	10.9	13.3	17.2	18.0	21.9	20.5	26.5
278	Fertilisers	23.0	25.8	32.8	35.1	57.0	55.1	60.8	12.1	11.8	17.8	15.6	13.7	13.7	18.4
279	Other chemical industries	39.8	46.2	53.7	73.3	113.4	122.5	176.9	28.9	31.3	43.7	41.9	46.5	44.8	56.9
Order V	Chemical and allied industries	577.7	605.6	693.9	946.9	1,644.9	1,498.2	2,129.7	359.0	409.6	469.0	517.2	555.2	588.3	673.0

TABLE 3 (a) Imports of principal products of the chemical industry

£million, cif 1970 prices, not seasonally adjusted

									1975		1976				1977
MLH		1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
271	General chemicals	305	299	330	377	388	340	396	83	92	94	97	104	102	111
271/1	Inorganic chemicals	75	69	72	86	88	75	86	19	18	20	22	22	23	20
271/2	Organic chemicals	161	155	166	194	191	152	206	34	40	49	50	55	52	57
271/3	Other chemicals	69	75	92	97	109	113	104	30	34	25	26	27	27	34
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	40	40	47	61	75	60	72	14	15	17	17	17	20	21
273	Toilet preparations	5	6	9	13	15	18	18	4	4	3	4	5	5	6
274	Paint	5	6	7	8	9	8	10	2	2	2	3	2	3	3
275	Soap and detergents	7	8	12	11	12	9	11	2	2	3	3	3	3	4
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	107	118	147	185	206	142	208	36	41	50	53	53	52	58
276/2	Synthetic rubber	19	23	25	24	23	26	28	6	7	8	7	6	7	7
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	28	30	31	39	37	24	36	6	7	9	8	10	9	11
278	Fertilisers	23	24	28	26	26	19	22	4	4	6	6	5	5	6
279	Other chemical industries	40	45	49	56	65	56	69	13	14	20	17	18	15	19
Order V	Chemical and allied industries	578	598	684	800	854	702	869	171	189	211	214	223	220	246

TABLE 4 Exports of the principal products of the chemical industry

£million, fob current prices, not seasonally adjusted

									1975		1976				1977
MLH		1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
271	General chemicals	320.8	360.6	386.5	537.9	1,011.8	948.2	1,414.6	223.5	263.8	305.9	366.2	363.4	379.1	413.1
271/1	Inorganic chemicals	62.1	61.6	63.7	87.7	139.1	139.3	180.1	29.5	35.0	36.9	46.4	44.6	52.1	54.9
271/2	Organic chemicals	135.8	154.1	165.4	249.6	553.3	459.5	704.5	106.8	135.2	158.4	182.2	179.7	184.2	211.1
271/3	Other chemicals	122.9	144.9	157.4	200.6	319.5	349.3	530.0	87.2	93.6	110.6	137.5	139.1	142.7	147.1
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	132.5	159.9	171.7	209.6	283.5	347.4	424.4	83 4	89.3	97.7	100.2	104.3	122.1	116.4
273	Toilet preparations	22.4	24.0	28.2	34.3	46.7	57.3	83.0	14.8	14.7	16.1	20.4	22.4	24.2	26.4
274	Paint	19.8	21.6	23.6	29.2	46.4	55.3	74.0	12.9	14.1	14.9	17.7	18.7	22.7	22.8
275	Soap and detergents	28.0	28.4	29.2	40.0	71.8	80.0	110.7	19.2	21.4	21.7	27.4	27.4	34.2	32.7
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	133.0	145.0	159.3	199.1	329.1	314.1	470.8	69.3	91.6	103.5	120.2	115.8	131.3	137.2
276/2	Synthetic rubber	19.8	22.3	25.6	34.3	46.6	37.8	56.2	8.0	11.5	12.5	14.8	13.1	15.8	18.5
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	53.6	60.0	73.7	99.9	148.4	124.9	185.5	28.9	34.6	37.2	46.5	49.5	52.2	54.9
278	Fertilisers	4.8	3.6	7.0	14.8	46.4	53.4	51.1	4.7	6.6	18.7	9.7	8.7	14.1	25.0
279	Other chemical industries	112 2	128.4	138.9	170.5	234.7	283.9	345.6	69.6	68.5	84.6	88.4	82.5	90.0	120.4
Order V	Chemical and allied industries	846.9	953.8	1,043.7	1,369.7	2,265.4	2,302.2	3,215.9	534.3	616.2	712.8	811.4	805.9	885.8	967.5

TABLE 4 (a) Exports of principal products of the chemical industry

£million, fob 1970 prices, not seasonally adjusted

									1975		1976				1977
MLH		1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
271	General chemicals	320	349	365	471	573	431	550	104	116	135	144	136	135	136
271/1	Inorganic chemicals	62	60	58	67	69	56	63	12	14	14	17	15	17	18
271/2	Organic chemicals	136	152	161	231	297	209	277	52	60	74	72	67	65	66
271/3	Other chemicals	122	137	146	173	207	166	209	40	41	47	56	54	53	52
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	133	155	163	193	231	232	253	55	55	61	61	62	69	65
273	Toilet preparations	22	22	25	29	28	28	37	7	7	8	9	10	10	11
274	Paint	20	21	21	23	25	26	29	6	6	6	7	7	8	8
275	Soap and detergents	28	27	27	34	42	38	48	9	10	10	12	12	14	13
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	133	148	166	179	188	163	221	37	50	53	59	54	56	56
276/2	Synthetic rubber	20	22	23	29	30	18	23	4	5	5	6	5	6	7
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	54	57	64	77	82	59	72	14	16	16	19	19	19	19
278	Fertilisers	5	4	7	13	24	27	20	2	3	6	3	4	6	10
279	Other chemical industries	112	132	148	160	174	158	161	37	36	42	42	38	39	46
Order V	Chemical and allied industries	847	933	1,008	1,207	1,398	1,178	1,412	275	303	342	363	345	363	371

TABLE 5 Unit value and volume index numbers: chemicals SITC (R) section 5 Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Index numbers 1970 = 100, seasonally adjusted

							1975			1976				1977
	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
Import volume	103	118	140	151	122	150	111	117	134	143	148	153	157	170
Export volume	110	118	143	169	142	171	134	136	148	164	167	171	180	176
										Index numbers 1970 = 100, not seasonally adjusted				
Import unit value	102	104	125	207	229	267	236	230	234	239	262	274	297	302
Export unit value	102	104	114	169	209	238	209	209	211	219	232	245	259	272

TABLE 6 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970=100

								1975		1976				1977
MLH		1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
271	General chemicals	107.0	109.8	114.4	158.4	201.1	244.6	207.9	213.8	224.2	240.2	251.8	262.5	271.6
271/1	Inorganic chemicals	108.0	112.3	116.8	140.7	197.1	238.4	207.5	216.2	223.7	234.8	242.4	252.8	263.2
271/2	Organic chemicals	106.3	108.1	112.9	185.7	222.7	270.1	227.8	231.7	247.4	262.4	278.3	292.2	298.1
272	Phamaceutical chemicals	110.4	107.7	112.6	137.6	183.1	212.1	189.4	195.3	192.7	211.3	219.2	225.8	240.1
272	Pharmaceutical preparations	103.6	109.1	112.3	126.9	160.7	192.1	168.7	174.0	179.7	187.6	197.8	203.4	209.4
273	Toilet preparations	108.3	118.6	124.3	136.8	164.3	189.6	170.6	173.9	182.2	186.5	192.2	197.8	209.8
274	Paint	112.4	120.6	127.5	161.9	203.5	224.5	205.3	211.5	220.0	222.1	225.4	230.7	240.3
275	Soap and detergents	103.0	112.3	123.8	162.8	185.1	210.0	187.9	188.9	200.6	206.2	212.7	220.5	232.2
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	102.6	103.8	105.6	156.4	181.8	210.8	181.9	188.3	194.6	205.6	217.5	225.6	234.6
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	111.6	115.7	122.6	141.5	174.0	214.1	181.8	187.3	201.0	205.2	221.0	231.9	239.9
279	Other chemical industries	108.5	115.1	120.6	145.9	187.1	216.4	192.9	202.5	208.4	212.1	217.6	227.3	237.7
Order V	Chemical and allied industries*	108.2	113.7	118.9	152.8	188.7	217.5	192.8	198.2	206.5	213.7	221.0	228.8	239.6
	Total manufacturing industry	109.0	114.8	123.2	152.0	188.7	219.6	193.4	199.1	206.9	214.4	223.2	233.9	248.0

* This index refers only to sales outside the chemical industry including sectors not shown above.

TABLE 7 Price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased

1970=100

Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	108.8	112.2	135.9	215.4	239.1	283.8	241.0	250.8	258.7	276.5	289.8	310.3	319.3
	Total manufacturing industry	104.6	109.2	144.5	215.3	235.5	299.0	239.3	256.1	266.5	292.6	306.8	329.9	341.5

TABLE 8 Employees in employment: Great Britain

Thousands – monthly averages

		Mid-year count							1975		1976				1977
MLH		1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
271	General chemicals	141	143	139	135	134	133	133	133	133	132	133	134	134	135
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	71	73	74	74	78	77	74	77	76	74	74	74	74	74
273	Toilet preparations	22	23	25	27	27	25	23	24	23	22	23	23	24	23
274	Paint	31	29	27	27	28	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
275	Soap and synthetic detergents	18	15	15	15	16	17	17	18	17	17	17	17	17	17
276	Synthetic resins, plastics and rubber	51	48	46	47	50	50	50	50	49	49	50	51	51	51
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	21	20	19	22	24	23	22	23	22	22	22	22	22	22
278	Fertilisers	11	11	11	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
279	Other chemical industries	75	73	69	69	68	67	67	67	66	66	67	68	69	69
Order V	Chemical and allied industries	440	435	426	427	436	431	425	430	425	421	423	427	430	429
	Total manufacturing industry	8,164	7,886	7,655	7,700	7,719	7,376	7,176	7,307	7,251	7,150	7,124	7,193	7,237	7,215

since the beginning of the year. In April and May however provisional indications are that input prices rose at a faster rate thus the prospects for an early slackening in the rate of increase in output prices are not good, though weak demand may act as a constraint.

Import prices (unit values) rose by 1¾ per cent in the first quarter of 1977 compared with an increase of 5 per cent in export prices (unit values). The ratio of the export unit value index to that of the import unit value index (see table 5) may be taken as a crude measure of export competitiveness and on this measure there has been some weakening in UK competitiveness since the end of 1976.

Investment

The volume of capital expenditure in 1976 was unchanged on the 1975 level although there was an upward trend through 1976. In the first quarter of 1977 capital expenditure fell and this suggests that the outcome for 1977 will be in line with the Department of Industry's investment intentions inquiry results. These, based on replies received in April/May, indicated a rise of about 10 per cent in 1977, while those obtained by the Chemical Industries Association (published in March) were more optimistic.

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Notes

The index of production measures net output at constant 1970 prices of all establishments classified to a minimum list heading.

In table 2 are shown sales, at constant 1970 prices, of those products which are regarded as characteristic or principal products of a minimum list heading. Sales of the products, by establishments not classified to the minimum list heading, are included.

The current price figures in tables 3 and 4 are obtained from Overseas Trade Statistics by combining those trade headings which correspond as closely as possible with the principal products of each minimum list heading. The constant price data are obtained by deflating the current price data using appropriate average value indices. This procedure provides base weighted trade data at constant prices which are consistent with the data in table 2.

TABLE 9 Capital expenditure

£ million

		Current prices not seasonally adjusted	1970 prices seasonally adjusted
1967		214.7	256.1
1968		223.1	256.0
1969		267.6	296.4
1970		382.3	382.3
1971		367.1	333.9
1972		281.1	240.0
1973		249.5	192.4
1974		352.7	223.1
1975		547.0	270.5
1976		646.4	270.1
1975	2nd qtr	135.8	70.0
	3rd qtr	138.3	69.3
	4th qtr	152.5	63.0
1976	1st qtr	131.4	60.0
	2nd qtr	152.5	66.6
	3rd qtr	162.0	71.5
	4th qtr	201.1	72.0
1977	1st qtr	168.3	65.8

p = provisional figure.

The unit value and volume index numbers shown in table 5 relate to standard international trade classification (revised) section 5 which does not cover precisely the same products as those which are regarded as principal products of order V of the standard industrial classification.

Activity in the textile and clothing industries: first quarter 1977

This article reviews activity in the textile and clothing industries during the first quarter of 1977. It is one of a series published at intervals in *Trade and Industry*.

Demand (table 1)
The demand for household textiles was strong in the first quarter of 1977 and the volume of consumers' expenditure on clothing was 1 per cent above the high level reached in the second half of last year. The treasury post budget forecast is that consumers' expenditure will not show any growth until 1978. However, consumers' expenditure on clothing might be expected to benefit from sales to foreign visitors. Export demand has been buoyant, with high quality products particularly benefiting from the devaluation of the pound in 1976.

Output (table 2)
Output of the textile industry in the first quarter of 1977 had increased by nearly 2 per cent from the final quarter of last year, and has now regained the average 1974 level for the first time since that year. The largest contributions to this increase were from the cotton system weaving sector (up 5½ per cent), the wool textile sector (up 7 per cent) and the hosiery and knitwear sector (up 3 per cent). The output of the cotton system weaving and the wool textile sectors both nearly reached the average 1974 level, and the hosiery and knitwear index of production was the highest ever recorded.

Of the other sectors, there was little change

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TABLE 1 Comparison of textile and clothing output with some factors affecting demand

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

								1975			1976				1977	Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	1970/76	Q1 1977/ Q1 1976
Gross domestic product at factor cost (expenditure based)	100.0	102.3	104.0	110.2	110.5	108.5	110.0	108.2	106.8	108.6	111.0	108.4	109.3	111.5	110.2	+1.7	+1.1
Consumer's expenditure																	
All items	100.0	102.7	108.7	113.6	112.5	111.4	111.5	111.7	110.3	109.8	111.4	110.4	111.5	112.8	110.2	+1.8	+0.4
Clothing	100.0	101.8	107.9	113.4	112.6	114.7	116.6	114.3	114.5	112.0	115.3	114.5	118.8	117.7	119.4	+2.6	+3.1
Household textiles and soft furnishings	100.0	104.3	112.9	116.8	113.9	114.3	118.2	110.0	112.9	110.0	123.6	111.4	117.1	115.7	128.6	+2.8	+2.4
Output of total manufacturing	100.0	99.5	102.1	110.7	109.1	102.5	103.4	101.4	100.3	101.0	102.0	103.6	103.5	104.5	105.4	+0.4	+3.0
Output of textiles	100.0	100.6	102.9	108.6	99.2	93.8	97.3	93.7	92.8	94.6	98.4	95.1	97.1	98.4	100.2	−0.5	+3.0
Deliveries of made-up clothing	100.0	104.2	108.7	116.6	114.4	115.3	117.1	112.3	115.5	112.0	114.2	112.9	122.5	118.9	125.9	+2.6	+5.8

TABLE 2 Output

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

										1975			1976				1977	Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1968 MLH	Weights	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	1970/76	Q1 1977/ Q1 1976
Man-made fibres	411	14.5	100.0	106.1	107.2	127.3	111.1	100.9	112.5	101.7	100.4	109.5	115.8	112.6	108.6	112.9	113.7	+2.0	+4.8
Spinning and doubling on cotton system (a)	412	11.7	100.0	103.2	103.0	112.4	89.5	80.8	85.2	81.5	79.3	82.7	89.3	80.5	85.7	85.4	84.9	−2.6	+1.1
Weaving of cotton and man-made fibres (b)	413 (part)	6.9	100.0	95.3	91.6	93.3	90.3	86.4	65.9	85.4	85.4	84.6	94.3	82.2	82.1	85.0	89.6	−2.5	−3.1
Woollen and worsted	414	17.6	100.0	93.0	97.6	97.7	86.7	77.6	79.5	78.2	76.3	75.5	78.4	79.7	79.5	80.5	86.0	−3.7	+5.6
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	19.0	100.0	99.5	99.5	102.8	99.8	96.2	100.7	94.5	97.6	97.1	97.6	96.6	105.0	103.6	106.8	+0.1	+6.5
Carpets	419	8.0	100.0	107.8	121.7	125.8	115.5	110.9	109.5	111.9	109.0	107.5	112.5	108.1	107.5	109.9	106.4	+1.5	−2.0
(Order XIII) (c)		100.0	100.0	100.6	102.9	108.6	99.2	93.8	97.3	93.7	92.8	94.6	98.4	95.1	97.1	98.4	100.2	−0.5	+3.0

(a) Includes texturing of man-made continuous filament yarns.
(b) Excludes linen.
(c) In addition to sectors listed above includes jute, rope, twine and net, lace, narrow fabrics made-up textiles, textile finishing and other textiles industries. Their combined weight n the total index is 22.3 per cent.

TABLE 3 Production of man-made fibres

Million kilogrammes

								1975			1976				1977	Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	1970/76	Q1 1977/ Q1 1976
Staple fibre																	
Synthetic	170	166	177	221	196	178	214	48	44	49	52	53	52	57	53	+3.9	+11.4
Viscose and acetate	172	170	185	204	160	138	134	39	32	31	38	35	26	35	34	−4.1	−7.1
Total	342	336	362	425	356	316	348	87	76	80	90	88	78	92	87	+0.3	+3.6
Continuous filament yarn																	
Synthetic	167	191	196	233	200	185	200	46	44	53	52	52	46	50	49	+3.0	+1.0
Viscose and acetate	91	85	68	73	72	63	71	16	15	17	18	18	16	19	18	−4.0	+7.6
Total	258	276	264	306	272	248	271	62	59	70	70	70	62	69	67	−0.8	+2.7
All man-made fibres																	
Synthetic	337	357	373	454	396	363	414	94	88	102	104	105	98	107	102	+3.5	+6.2
Viscose and acetate	263	255	253	277	232	201	205	55	47	48	56	53	42	54	52	−4.1	−2.4
Total	600	612	626	731	628	564	619	149	135	150	160	158	140	161	154	+0.5	+3.2

TABLE 4 Consumption of fibres

Million kilogrammes

								1975			1976				1977		
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	Growth rate per cent per annum 1970/76	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q1 1977/ Q1 1976
In cotton spinning																	
Raw cotton	165	140	129	126	111	103	113	26	23	29	30	27	27	29	31	−6.1	+5.6
Man-made staple fibre																	
Rayon	33	34	32	36	39	30	27	9	6	7	7	7	6	7	9	−3.3	0
Other	32	36	34	37	30	30	38	8	6	9	10	9	9	10	11	+2.9	+18.2
In top making, wool spinning and felting																	
Wool and animal hair	166	151	165	149	121	122	134	32	28	32	35	34	31	34	36	−3.5	+6.3
Man-made staple fibre	84	77	86	105	103	86	87	24	18	20	22	23	19	23	23	+0.6	+4.8

TABLE 5 Prices

Index numbers 1970 = 100

								1975			1976				1977
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976 p	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr p	1st qtr
Output (home sales)															
All manufactured products	100.0	109.0	114.8	123.2	152.0	188.7	219.6	186.3	193.4	199.2	206.9	214.4	223.2	233.9	248.0
Textile industries	*100.0*	*104.9*	*112.2*	*131.7*	*162.2*	*178.6*	*205.9*	*175.7*	*180.7*	*185.1*	*193.0*	*201.1*	*209.6*	*219.9*	*234.9*
Man-made fibre cloth	100.0	106.8	114.8	132.7	172.6	195.0	212.6	189.6	196.3	204.3	207.1	209.1	213.9	220.2	231.3
Cotton cloth	100.0	108.0	117.4	138.9	193.8	190.2	229.1	190.6	188.5	190.8	205.1	220.5	239.6	251.2	263.7
Worsted cloth	*100.0*	*103.9*	*118.0*	*173.3*	*189.8*	*203.2*	*240.7*	*201.5*	*207.1*	*211.0*	*219.4*	*234.9*	*243.7*	*264.6*	*279.4*
Socks, stockings and tights (inc pantihose)	100.0	100.9	102.3	107.1	119.4	134.2	146.4	132.5	136.7	138.0	142.5	145.0	148.2	149.7	158.7
Knitted underwear and nightwear	100.0	104.2	111.1	126.8	154.7	178.5	205.3	175.4	182.1	182.5	190.3	201.3	210.0	219.6	233.2
Knitted outerwear	*100.0*	*101.5*	*105.3*	*119.0*	*140.8*	*157.8*	*172.3*	*156.5*	*160.6*	*160.4*	*166.8*	*170.9*	*174.3*	*177.3*	*203.9*
Carpets	100.0	104.9	111.7	130.2	153.1	177.8	211.3	171.2	180.2	190.5	200.2	206.6	214.5	224.0	239.3
Made-up clothing	100.0	106.4	112.3	119.4	138.3	159.4	178.8	156.3	161.9	166.7	172.0	175.1	179.4	187.9	194.8
Materials and fuel purchased															
Textile industries	100.0	104.8	119.0	166.7	189.9	201.7	265.5	198.9	204.0	214.9	232.4	255.9	275.1	298.8	298.5
Commodities wholly or mainly imported															
Raw cotton	*100.0*	*112.9*	*116.6*	*204.2*	*229.5*	*196.9*	*356.7*	*188.6*	*209.6*	*223.7*	*264.6*	*324.4*	*405.7*	*432.3*	*397.7*
Raw wool	100.0	94.9	156.3	332.3	250.3	210.7	303.7	208.9	212.1	227.8	250.4	286.1	313.9	364.4	350.8
Man-made fibres	100.0	103.1	103.6	105.8	137.9	156.9	175.4	152.2	159.8	162.8	166.9	173.4	176.8	184.7	192.3

TABLE 6 Employment in textiles (a)

Thousands

	MLH	*June 1975*	*September 1975*	*December 1975*	*March 1976*	*June 1976*	*September 1976*	*December 1976*	*March 1977*
Great Britain									
Textiles	411-429	493.9	487.6	483.7	482.4	486.2	488.7	491.6	490.8
Production of man-made fibres	411	34.0	33.9	34.3	34.0	33.5	33.5	33.1	32.5
Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	412	52.9	52.1	50.8	51.1	51.8	52.4	52.2	52.0
Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	413	43.6	43.5	42.5	42.4	42.8	43.1	42.6	42.8
Woollen and worsted	414	88.0	85.8	84.3	85.0	85.0	84.4	85.1	84.6
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	115.0	113.1	113.1	112.8	115.4	116.7	117.7	118.2
Carpets	419	37.4	36.7	36.0	36.1	35.7	35.3	35.4	35.5
Textile finishing	423	45.0	45.5	45.9	45.8	46.5	47.1	47.5	47.3
Clothing	441-449	307.5	306.0	305.8	300.3	302.0	302.4	306.7	306.6

(a) Employees in employment at middle of each month.

TABLE 7 Crude trade balance (a)

£ million at current prices

								1975			1976				1977
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
Textile fibres (division 26)															
Exports	*96.4*	*87.3*	*108.1*	*172.1*	*201.8*	*183.5*	*260.6*	*52.1*	*41.3*	*46.9*	*57.6*	*64.8*	*59.8*	*78.4*	*92.6*
Imports	183.9	150.0	213.7	322.4	310.5	263.4	438.3	74.2	70.4	62.6	101.2	113.7	103.1	120.3	140.6
Balance	−87.6	−62.7	−105.6	−150.3	−108.7	−79.9	−177.7	−22.1	−29.1	−15.8	−43.6	−48.9	−43.3	−41.9	−48.0
Textile yarns, fabrics, etc, (division 65)															
Exports	396.8	425.8	445.4	589.5	745.8	698.2	934.2	174.5	161.4	197.2	203.4	230.9	225.3	274.6	287.7
Imports	*256.4*	*324.9*	*369.7*	*514.9*	*688.2*	*682.8*	*911.4*	*166.0*	*167.4*	*182.6*	*212.7*	*225.3*	*213.7*	*259.7*	*288.9*
Balance	+140.4	+100.9	+75.7	+74.6	+57.6	+15.4	+22.8	+8.5	−6.0	+14.6	−9.3	+5.6	+11.6	+14.9	−1.2
Clothing (division 84)															
Exports	*123.1*	*129.5*	*144.3*	*179.6*	*230.0*	*265.5*	*412.3*	*54.8*	*75.2*	*83.0*	*74.1*	*87.7*	*115.4*	*135.1*	*119.2*
Imports	129.4	178.2	218.8	333.6	402.4	505.1	683.8	125.1	130.7	138.3	158.3	166.4	176.3	182.8	201.5
Balance	−6.3	−48.7	−74.5	−154.0	−172.4	−239.6	−271.5	−70.3	−55.5	−55.3	−84.2	−78.7	−60.9	−47.7	−82.3

(a) Imports cif, exports fob.

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Activity in the ***textile and clothing industries*** *continued*

TABLE 8 Imports

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Textile fibres (div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (div. 65)										Clothing (div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.7 part and 262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and .4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and .6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.6)†	Total yarns, fabrics etc	Made-up clothing (841.1 and .2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1970	13.3	3.3	183.9	3.9	9.8	38.4	5.6	53.5	7.6	42.2	13.0	9.6	256.4	70.7	51.4	129.4
1971	16.9	2.8	150.0	4.1	10.2	54.2	7.3	70.4	7.9	57.1	16.6	12.2	324.9	99.6	68.8	178.2
1972	24.9	4.3	213.7	6.3	12.5	52.8	9.2	74.2	8.2	78.6	14.0	15.8	369.7	123.7	82.7	218.8
1973	35.4	5.3	322.4	11.0	15.5	70.7	17.0	103.5	11.8	115.3	12.7	21.3	514.9	197.8	112.3	333.6
1974	57.2	4.8	310.5	9.5	42.8	105.2	30.2	130.5	13.5	154.5	16.4	23.0	688.2	243.9	134.1	402.4
1975	45.5	3.8	263.4	11.1	28.3	92.2	28.7	125.7	16.6	167.2	18.5	27.4	682.8	307.5	166.7	505.1
1976	59.3	4.2	438.3	17.1	41.8	127.5	41.2	190.7	19.1	196.4	22.8	36.7	911.4	404.1	238.4	683.8
1974																
3rd qtr	18.2	1.0	72.2	2.2	11.1	34.6	8.3	28.4	3.4	39.4	4.6	5.7	180.0	61.5	34.9	102.5
4th qtr	12.5	1.1	56.6	2.4	9.6	26.1	7.6	28.7	3.1	42.2	4.4	6.2	170.8	54.7	30.7	92.2
1975																
1st qtr	10.4	1.0	56.1	2.2	6.6	20.7	5.9	31.7	3.2	44.5	3.6	5.9	166.8	68.0	37.2	111.0
2nd qtr	10.8	0.8	74.2	3.0	6.8	20.6	6.8	29.8	5.0	41.4	4.3	6.7	166.0	79.4	39.5	125.1
3rd qtr	12.1	1.1	70.4	2.8	7.0	24.9	7.0	30.1	5.0	39.9	5.4	6.7	167.4	75.7	45.9	130.7
4th qtr	12.2	0.9	62.7	3.1	7.9	26.0	9.0	34.1	3.4	41.4	5.2	8.0	182.6	84.4	44.1	138.3
1976																
1st qtr	14.5	0.9	101.2	3.6	9.5	29.4	9.8	43.6	4.0	47.6	4.6	8.2	212.7	97.9	52.5	158.3
2nd qtr	14.7	1.1	113.7	4.2	9.0	31.4	10.6	53.0	4.7	43.7	5.4	8.8	225.3	104.3	53.2	166.4
3rd qtr	15.4	1.0	103.1	4.2	9.2	30.0	9.3	44.6	5.1	47.2	6.0	8.5	213.7	100.2	64.1	176.3
4th qtr	14.7	1.2	120.3	5.1	14.1	36.7	11.5	49.5	5.3	57.9	6.8	11.3	259.7	101.7	68.6	182.8
1977																
1st qtr	19.0	1.2	140.6	5.8	14.8	40.1	11.6	57.9	6.2	67.0	6.6	10.0	288.9	117.7	71.0	201.5

* Less 841.45.

† See footnote to table 9.

Source: Overseas trade statistics.

TABLE 9 Exports

£ million at current prices (fob)

	Textile fibres (div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (div. 65)										Clothing (div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.7 part and 262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and .4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and .6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.6)†	Total yarns, fabrics etc	Made-up clothing (841.1 and .2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1970	47.0	20.4	96.4	23.4	11.0	68.6	8.6	26.7	70.1	32.3	38.9	30.8	396.8	60.5	45.0	123.1
1971	45.5	16.3	87.3	23.3	10.1	80.4	9.6	28.6	62.8	31.6	54.4	34.2	425.8	61.8	49.0	129.5
1972	56.5	19.8	108.1	27.3	11.7	83.8	10.9	29.0	66.9	37.4	43.2	40.7	445.4	70.2	53.5	144.3
1973	77.7	38.1	172.1	37.0	17.0	110.0	18.6	39.5	91.5	49.9	43.1	63.0	589.5	86.9	68.0	179.6
1974	118.7	26.2	201.8	41.6	22.0	136.5	28.1	52.0	106.6	68.6	44.9	85.0	745.8	113.4	81.8	230.0
1975	101.3	28.6	183.5	37.5	18.5	112.8	23.3	46.9	92.5	68.2	44.3	74.6	698.2	137.1	89.3	265.5
1976	124.0	50.5	260.6	56.0	26.8	157.8	33.3	72.0	105.2	90.5	51.7	113.0	934.2	210.6	147.8	412.3
1974																
3rd qtr	33.1	4.9	48.7	9.6	5.7	29.2	6.6	12.6	26.4	16.8	11.3	19.9	178.6	31.6	24.9	66.2
4th qtr	20.6	4.9	37.0	9.4	5.6	28.4	6.6	13.9	25.8	17.6	11.2	20.6	183.1	33.6	25.0	68.7
1975																
1st qtr	26.2	5.2	43.2	8.3	4.6	26.9	5.9	12.1	21.9	17.6	8.2	16.9	165.1	27.0	17.2	52.5
2nd qtr	32.1	7.0	52.1	9.4	4.4	28.0	5.9	10.7	24.4	16.7	11.8	17.5	174.5	29.8	16.8	54.8
3rd qtr	21.4	8.0	41.3	8.7	3.9	25.8	4.6	11.2	23.8	15.0	11.4	16.3	161.4	37.9	26.8	75.2
4th qtr	21.6	8.4	46.9	11.1	5.6	32.1	6.9	12.9	22.4	18.9	12.9	23.9	197.2	42.4	28.5	83.0
1976																
1st qtr	26.9	11.0	57.6	11.1	5.3	35.4	7.7	16.1	19.7	20.6	10.9	24.4	203.4	37.8	25.3	74.1
2nd qtr	30.3	13.4	64.8	13.7	6.8	39.4	8.5	16.6	27.6	22.2	12.5	27.3	230.9	48.2	28.5	87.7
3rd qtr	29.1	11.6	59.8	13.6	6.8	38.9	7.1	15.8	28.5	21.0	13.6	26.0	225.3	58.3	42.8	115.4
4th qtr	37.7	14.5	78.4	17.6	7.9	44.1	10.0	23.5	29.4	26.7	14.7	35.3	274.6	66.3	51.2	135.1
1977																
1st qtr	46.1	18.0	92.6	20.0	7.1	45.7	10.3	24.2	31.2	28.4	13.8	37.4	287.7	65.2	40.6	119.2

* Less 841.45.

† This series previously included carpets classified to 657.5. These are knotted types, mainly of Asian origin (predominantly the subject of transit trade), the bulk of which are re-exported.

Source: Overseas trade statistics.

TABLE 10 Imports of raw materials

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Greasy wool (262.1)		Degreased wool (262.2)		Fine animal hair (262.3)		Raw cotton (263.1)	
	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m
1970	149	58	57	22	10	9	167	44
1971	99	33	62	21	9	5	142	41
1972	130	56	77	23	18	13	137	44
1973	95	93	56	55	15	26	171	66
1974	65	67	56	48	9	21	93	61
1975	84	58	48	37	11	22	113	59
1976	112	121	50	54	15	50	122	95
1974								
3rd qtr	16	13	..	13	2	4	16	11
4th qtr	6	7	..	7	2	4	22	14
1975								
1st qtr	19	13	8	6	2	3	23	11
2nd qtr	29	19	16	12	3	6	32	16
3rd qtr	20	14	15	12	3	6	32	17
4th qtr	16	12	9	7	3	7	26	15
1976								
1st qtr	35	32	10	10	3	8	38	23
2nd qtr	28	28	17	17	5	14	34	25
3rd qtr	24	27	13	15	3	10	26	22
4th qtr	25	34	10	12	4	18	24	25
1977								
1st qtr	29	40	11	16	2	10	33	37

Source: Overseas trade statistics.

in the output of man-made fibres and cotton-system spinning between the fourth quarter of 1976 and the first quarter of 1977. Carpets output fell further from the depressed 1976 level and the index of production was the lowest recorded for six years.

Prices (table 5)
The wholesale price index of materials and fuel purchased by the textile industries stabilised in the first quarter of 1977 for the first time since 1974. A significant contributory factor was the fall in the prices of imported raw cotton and wool, which appear to have peaked at the end of 1976, having climbed rapidly throughout that year; latest provisional information indicates that this downward movement continued into April.

The wholesale price index of output (home sales) for the textile industry was 7 per cent higher in the first quarter of 1977 than in the final quarter of 1976. This compares with a 6 per cent rise in the price of all manufactured products. Of particular note was the increase of 15 per cent for knitted outerwear.

Employment (table 6)
The mid-March figures of total textiles and clothing employment in Great Britain show a slight drop on those recorded in December 1976, but were 15 000 higher than a year previously. The largest increase over this period has been in the hosiery and knitwear sector, but, in contrast, employment in the man-made fibre sector continued the downward trend evident since the beginning of 1976. The industry has been a major beneficiary of the temporary employment subsidy, which has helped to maintain employment.

Overseas trade (tables 7-10)
During the period under review the continuing improvement in export performance noted in both the made-up clothing and knitwear sectors over the past year was halted by the usual seasonal fall-back. However, the volume of exports in each of these sectors was substantially higher than in the first quarter of 1976. With imports continuing to rise, the crude trade deficit of £82 million in the first quarter of 1977 was nearly at the level of a year previously, which was the worst deficit ever recorded.

The crude balance of trade in the yarns and fabrics sector showed a slight improvement on the comparable quarter of 1976. Exports of woollen and worsted yarns and fabrics, cotton fabrics and carpets all showed substantial growth. This encouraging growth in exports was, however, matched by a rapid build-up in the value of imports. The volume of imported yarns and fabrics rose by 7 per cent, the rest of the increase being accounted for by the steep rise in import prices over that period.

Inquiries: 01-212 6787.

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Made-up clothing: *orders and deliveries* in March

In the three months ended March 1977, deliveries by the clothing industry were provisionally estimated to have been 4 per cent higher than in the preceding three months while net new orders were 6 per cent higher. Orders-on-hand at the end of March 1977 were 1 per cent higher than the end-December 1976 level. (These comparisons are based on the seasonally adjusted series in the accompanying table.)

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years.

Made-up clothing

Index numbers of total orders and deliveries

	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders		Deliveries	
	December 1969 = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100	
1968	107		100		97	
1969	100		97		97	
1970	103		102		100	
1971	119		108		104	
1972	125		110		109	
1973	155		123		117	
1974	145		115		114	
1975	142		118		115	
1976 p	142		120		116	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1975						
1st qtr	135	139	116	124	116	121
2nd qtr	165	151	133	119	114	112
3rd qtr	129	141	97	114	114	115
4th qtr	142	149	128	117	116	112
1976						
1st qtr	126	130	109	113	113	114
2nd qtr	148	135	126	116	106	109
3rd qtr	134	147	108	128	120	122
4th qtr p	142	149	135	123	124	119
1977						
1st qtr p	144	148	126	130	121	123
1976						
Jan	129	128	94	111	102	123
Feb	128	130	115	117	116	113
Mar	126	130	117	111	119	107
Apr	132	131	128	117	105	104
May	150	134	149	122	111	118
Jun	148	135	101	109	103	105
Jul	147	148	102	137	117	122
Aug	136	143	88	114	108	122
Sep	134	147	135	134	136	123
Oct p	140	144	159	122	140	119
Nov p	146	141	148	118	129	118
Dec p	142	149	98	128	104	119
1977						
Jan p	142	141	112	132	107	129
Feb p	138	140	126	128	128	125
Mar p	144	148	139	131	128	115

Inquiries: 01-212 0116.

National food survey: household food consumption in the first quarter of 1977

Main results of the national food survey for the first quarter of 1977, summarised in the tables, are estimates from a sample of 1990 households.

Average expenditure on food bought for consumption in the home (excluding sweets and soft drinks) rose by 23p (4.9 per cent) compared with the previous quarter, to £4.90 per person per week. This rise, when compared with the rise of 7.0 per cent in the level of food prices paid by housewives participating in the survey, implies a fall of 1.9 per cent in the real value of food purchases per head; this fall was largely due to a cut-back in purchases of convenience foods other than frozen foods.

Compared with the first quarter of 1976, average expenditure rose by 76p (18.2 per cent) and the average level of food prices by 20.5 per cent, also implying a fall of 1.9 per cent in the real value of food purchases per head; the latter fall was attributable to reduced purchases of milk, butter, beef, lamb and green vegetables.

The overall increase of 20.5 per cent over the year in the general level of food prices conceals some marked variation in individual price changes. Foods which increased in price appreciably less than the overall average included sugar (2 per cent), bacon (3 per cent), preserves (11 per cent), potatoes (12 per cent), pork (13 per cent), meat products, and processed vegetables (each 15 per cent). Foods which increased in price appreciably more than the overall average included poultry (27 per cent), lamb (29 per cent), fresh vegetables other than potatoes (39 per cent), tea (58 per cent), butter (59 per cent) and instant coffee (74 per cent).

Average consumption of milk fell to 4.55 pints per person per week in the first quarter of 1977, following the increase of 1p per pint in the price of ordinary milk on 2 January; a year earlier consumption had averaged 4.82 pints. Purchases of 'instant' skimmed milk powder increased from 0.08 pints to 0.11 pints and the price paid averaged 7.4p per equivalent pint compared with 10.6p for liquid milk. Despite the reduction in the cheese subsidy, average consumption in the first quarter was fully maintained at 3.78 oz per person per week, almost exactly equal to the average over each of the previous four years. The butter subsidy was terminated on 28 December 1976 and the increase in price in the first quarter of 1977 contributed to some further switch in demand from butter to margarine, expecially soft margarine. Consumption of butter averaged 4.67 oz, soft margarine 2.03 oz and other margarine 1.58 oz compared with 5.53 oz, 1.36 oz and 1.49 oz respectively a year earlier. Over the year there was no overall change in the total consumption of oils or fats.

Although consumption of eggs increased seasonally to 4.04 eggs per person per week, the average continued to be less than in the corresponding period of recent years.

Demand for sugar continued to show some resistance to the higher real prices which have prevailed since the end of 1974, and purchases averaged almost 12 oz per person per week in the first quarter of 1977 compared with about 14 oz in the corresponding quarter of 1974. Recorded consumption of preserves rose to 2.46 oz after being fairly steady at around 2¼ oz for nearly two years.

Household purchases of carcase meat in the first quarter of 1977 averaged 14.67 oz per person per week compared with 16.05 oz in the corresponding period of the previous year, decreases for beef and for lamb outweighing by far a small increase in purchases of pork. There were relatively larger increases in purchases of uncooked bacon and of frozen convenience meats but no significant changes in consumption of other meats and meat products. Average purchases of fish and fish products fell to a new low level of 4.05 oz per person per week because of reduced supplies of white fish.

Fresh potatoes continued to be in short supply, and consumption, at 36.28 oz per person per week, hardly differed from that in the first quarter of 1976 but was about 10 oz less than in the corresponding period of the two preceding years. The average price paid by housewives for potatoes was again over 10p per lb compared with less than 3p per lb two years earlier.

Fresh green vegetables (principally brassicas at this time of the year) were in short supply as a result of weather conditions unfavourable to growth, and consumption was only about three-quarters as much as in the corresponding period of 1976, while average prices were over 50 per cent higher. Supplies of other fresh vegetables (principally root vegetables and onions) were less affected by the unfavourable weather, and consumption, at 10.95 oz per person per week, was

TABLE 1 Estimates of average household food consumption

oz per person per week (a)

	Year 1975	Year 1976	1st quarter 1976	4th quarter 1976	1st quarter 1977
Liquid milk (pints)	4.76	4.71	4.82	4.67	4.55
Other milk (eq. pints)	0.33	0.34	0.31	0.30	0.33
Cheese	3.79	3.79	3.66	3.71	3.78
Butter	5.63	5.16	5.53	5.11	4.67
Margarine	2.60	3.06	2.85	3.28	3.61
Lard and compound cooking fat	1.97	1.86	2.02	1.91	1.90
Eggs: purchases (number)	3.97	3.93	4.05	3.80	3.86
consumption (number)	4.14	4.08	4.21	3.88	4.04
Preserves	2.43	2.29	2.29	2.24	2.46
Sugar	11.29	12.20	12.27	11.93	11.95
Beef and veal	8.32	7.62	8.20	6.93	7.53
Mutton and lamb	4.25	4.20	4.73	3.87	3.92
Pork	2.73	2.89	3.11	3.26	3.22
Bacon and ham, uncooked	3.99	4.03	3.95	3.78	4.26
Bacon and ham, cooked (including canned)	1.00	0.99	0.78	1.01	0.82
Poultry and cooked chicken	5.73	6.00	5.43	5.92	5.42
Other cooked meat (not canned)	0.59	0.51	0.48	0.44	0.45
Other canned meat	2.21	2.32	2.15	2.34	2.09
Offals	1.15	1.15	1.29	1.28	1.35
Sausages, uncooked	3.22	3.29	3.35	3.34	3.38
Other meat products:					
meat pies and sausage rolls (ready-to-eat)	0.75	0.72	0.62	0.69	0.58
all others (not frozen)	2.21	2.13	2.17	2.22	2.25
Fish, fresh and processed	2.76	2.67	2.51	2.81	2.47
Canned fish	0.66	0.65	0.50	0.56	0.51
Fish and fish products, frozen	1.05	1.26	1.26	1.27	1.07
Fresh green vegetables	11.58	11.40	10.54	10.16	7.52
Tomatoes, fresh	3.87	3.94	1.97	3.11	1.95
Other fresh vegetables	9.92	10.58	11.84	11.31	10.95
Frozen vegetables	3.26	3.24	2.89	3.11	4.59
Canned tomatoes	0.98	1.06	1.16	0.86	1.21
Canned peas	2.76	2.84	2.73	2.89	2.71
Canned beans	3.83	3.99	4.19	4.07	4.17
Potatoes (excluding processed)					
purchases	41.08	31.84	34.54	36.33	33.84
consumption	43.90	35.30	36.67	40.03	36.28
Citrus fruit	4.92	4.73	6.13	3.59	6.57
Bananas	2.87	2.89	2.57	2.63	2.86
Apples	6.77	7.44	6.91	8.50	7.20
All other fresh fruit	2.95	3.25	0.99	2.30	1.40
Canned fruit	3.75	3.56	3.31	3.23	2.95
Dried fruit, nuts and fruit and nut products	1.27	1.42	1.11	2.29	0.96
Flour	5.16	6.02	5.79	6.81	6.70
White bread	27.68	26.43	26.75	25.24	25.05
Brown, wholewheat and wholemeal bread	3.30	3.60	3.22	3.77	3.78
Other bread	2.69	3.14	3.04	3.24	3.27
Buns, scones and teacakes	1.12	1.11	1.15	1.29	1.15
Cakes and pastries	3.12	2.85	2.47	3.12	2.67
Chocolate biscuits	0.95	0.99	1.20	1.04	0.96
Other biscuits	4.64	4.63	4.40	4.70	4.43
Breakfast cereals	3.05	3.25	3.17	3.00	3.10
Oatmeal and oat products	0.50	0.49	0.63	0.64	0.71
Canned milk puddings	1.56	1.53	1.45	1.58	1.50
Tea	2.18	2.21	2.50	2.13	2.41
Instant coffee	0.50	0.51	0.52	0.57	0.46
Canned soups	2.98	3.19	4.09	3.95	3.58
Pickles and sauces	1.71	1.66	1.65	1.71	1.54

(a) Except where otherwise stated.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food only about 8 per cent less than in the first quarter of 1976. The poor supply situation for fresh vegetables stimulated demand for frozen vegetables, and household purchases were nearly 60 per cent greater than a year previously at 4.59 oz per person per week of which 2.02 oz were frozen peas, 0.63 oz frozen beans, and 0.68 oz frozen chips and potato products. Purchases of canned vegetables were barely different from a year earlier.

Consumption of fresh fruit was at its highest first quarter level for several years at 18.01 oz per person per week, consumption of dessert apples, pears, citrus fruit and bananas being particularly good for the time of the year. Purchases of canned fruits and of dried fruit were somewhat lower than a year previously.

Purchases of bread fell to 32.10 oz per person per week, the decrease being entirely in standard white loaves; purchases of flour were again well above the level of a year previously. Consumption of most kinds of flour confectionery was much the same as in the first quarter of 1976, the seasonal decline in purchases of cakes and pastries being rather less pronounced than in recent years.

Household purchases of tea were increasing rapidly throughout the first quarter of 1976 and it appears that housewives may have been stocking up in anticipation of further sharp price increases; in contrast, their purchases of instant coffee were falling throughout the quarter as the price increases, which they had anticipated in the previous quarter, took effect.

Nutrient intakes are normally lowest in the first quarter of the year, but those in January to March 1977, remained well above the intakes recommended by the Department of Health and Social Security, with the exception of energy, iron and vitamin D. Iron intakes decreased because slight decreases in several iron-containing foods were not fully offset by other such foods. As always, energy intakes will have been supplemented by items not recorded in the survey, such as alcoholic drinks and sweets, while vitamin D requirements are normally met from the action of sunlight on the skin rather than from the diet. The nutritional value of diets in larger families continued near the levels recorded in recent years.

Overseas publicity for UK trade fairs

British commercial representatives overseas are keen to publicise UK trade fairs and exhibitions and welcome posters and brochures from fair organisers. But material must be sent well in advance—at least three clear months ahead of the event—and in sufficient quantity—two or three dozen copies for the representative in each area. A full list of addresses of commercial representatives is published as a quarterly supplement to *Trade and Industry.*

TABLE 2 Estimates of average household food expenditure

per person per week

	Year 1975	Year 1976	1st quarter 1976	4th quarter 1976	1st quarter 1977
Total household food expenditure	£3.77	£4.41	£4.14	£4.67	£4.90
	p	p	p	p	p
Liquid milk	30.47	40.80	40.19	43.72	46.37
Other milk	3.59	4.36	3.61	4.03	4.15
Cheese	10.38	12.06	11.20	12.56	14.11
Butter	9.95	12.74	11.43	14.78	15.36
Margarine	3.90	4.67	4.23	5.22	6.35
Lard and compound cooking fat	2.47	2.22	2.34	2.37	2.56
Eggs	12.54	14.04	13.56	14.52	15.88
Preserves	3.56	3.48	3.32	3.51	3.97
Sugar	9.38	8.87	8.87	8.92	8.82
Beef and veal	32.51	35.78	36.66	36.59	39.47
Mutton and lamb	13.12	15.43	15.42	15.72	16.44
Fork	9.61	11.37	11.44	13.53	13.30
Bacon and ham, uncooked	15.58	18.35	17.89	17.85	19.85
Bacon and ham, cooked (including canned)	5.44	6.14	4.51	6.29	5.23
Poultry and cooked chicken	12.24	14.58	11.93	15.92	14.92
Other cooked meat (not canned)	2.64	2.60	2.37	2.36	2.55
Other canned meat	6.18	7.28	6.22	7.57	7.30
Offals	3.22	3.36	3.54	3.82	4.12
Sausages, uncooked	6.92	8.16	7.97	8.71	9.09
Other meat products:					
meat pies and sausage rolls (ready-to-eat)	1.81	2.05	1.65	2.08	1.80
All others (not frozen)	6.01	7.01	6.66	7.93	8.26
Fish, fresh and processed	9.58	10.64	9.75	12.01	11.64
Canned fish	2.82	2.80	2.13	2.50	2.53
Fish and fish products, frozen	3.31	4.80	4.54	5.22	4.88
Fresh green vegetables	6.32	6.66	6.43	6.01	7.37
Tomatoes, fresh	5.31	5.31	3.80	3.21	4.24
	p	p	p	p	p
Other fresh vegetables	6.55	7.89	7.62	8.26	0.29
Frozen vegetables	4.25	5.31	4.57	5.57	8.19
Canned tomatoes	0.97	1.00	1.11	0.85	1.30
Canned peas	2.03	2.31	2.13	2.50	2.38
Canned beans	3.14	3.48	3.56	3.62	3.85
Potatoes (excluding processed)	13.64	21.27	21.14	23.37	22.99
Citrus fruit	3.72	4.13	4.96	3.87	5.97
Bananas	2.62	2.86	2.42	2.65	2.95
Apples	5.38	5.75	5.44	6.02	6.75
All other fresh fruit	2.72	3.01	1.00	2.12	1.50
Canned fruit	4.41	4.64	4.08	4.47	4.39
Dried fruit, nuts and fruit and nut products	2.53	2.98	2.14	4.90	2.67
Flour	2.11	2.46	2.24	2.94	3.20
White bread	16.42	17.50	16.55	18.12	18.95
Brown, wholewheat and wholemeal bread	2.47	3.13	2.61	3.57	3.64
Other bread	3.66	4.30	4.14	4.44	4.99
Buns, scones and teacakes	1.85	2.03	1.88	2.30	2.27
Cakes and pastries	7.74	7.85	6.48	9.01	7.97
Chocolate biscuits	3.08	3.48	3.39	3.84	3.79
Other biscuits	8.04	8.53	7.80	8.97	8.81
Breakfast cereals	4.95	5.59	5.39	5.27	5.97
Oatmeal and oat products	0.50	0.53	0.65	0.75	0.84
Canned milk puddings	1.12	1.23	1.11	1.33	1.28
Tea	6.00	7.04	6.35	8.38	11.01
Instant coffee	4.19	5.94	5.29	7.62	8.10
Canned soups	2.62	3.08	3.76	4.01	3.74
Pickles and sauces	2.51	2.80	2.76	3.07	2.94
Other foods	29.26	35.38	32.09	38.10	38.55

TABLE 3 Nutritional value of household food as a percentage of recommended intakes (a) (b)

	National averages					Households with four or more children			
	Year 1975	Year 1976	1st quarter 1976	4th quarter 1976	1st quarter 1977	Year 1975	Year 1976	Averages of the January-March quarters in the three most recent years	Averages for year ended March 1977
Energy	96	95	94	97	93	88	91	86	88
Protein	120	121	119	121	121	106	109	107	107
Calcium	186	184	182	185	182	155	160	155	156
Iron	105	103	102	105	96	91	92	88	88
Thiamin	122	122	120	123	126	121	123	119	122
Riboflavin	126	126	126	125	127	124	126	125	123
Nicotinic acid equivalent	185	184	183	185	180	177	176	175	170
Vitamin C	177	166	139	152	154	154	138	123	136
Vitamin A (retinol equivalent)	198	212	214	225	213	183	204	199	194
Vitamin D (c)	82	83	77	83	84	65	70	69	69

(a) Department of Health and Social Security. *Recommended Intakes of Nutrients for the United Kingdom.* Reports on Public Health and Medical Subjects, no. 120, HMSO, 1969.

(b) All values make allowance for wastage in the home of 10 per cent of the edible portion of food bought, and for expected losses of nutrients during cooking.

(c) The survey does not evaluate welfare and pharmaceutical sources of this (or any other) vitamin. Furthermore, most adults need no dietary vitamin D, since they obtain all they need from the action of sunlight on the skin.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 24 June 1977.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
		BRITISH			
Review No. 11 (30th Year)	BR/E 39210/26/6/82	11	20 June	Data Film Distributors Ltd	The National Coal Board, London
Lost In The Wild	BR/E 39211/26/6/82	73	21 June	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	ADS Waddington Productions, Australia
Over Exposed	BR/E 39221/26/6/82	38	24 June	New Realm Distributors Ltd	Oppidan (UK) Ltd, London
Movietone News 2507	BR/E 38868/26/6/82	8	24 June	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
		COMMUNITY			
Je T'aime Moi Non Plus (I Love You, I Don't)	EC 39218/26/6/82	88	23 June	Gaia Film Distributors Ltd	President Films and Renn Productions, Paris
Une Partie De Plaisir (Love Match)	EC 39219/26/6/82	105	23 June	Artificial Eye Film Co Ltd	Films La Boetie, Paris, and Gerico Sound, Rome
		FOREIGN			
When Sex Was A Knightly Affair	F 39209	91	20 June	Tigon Film Distributors Ltd	Burbank International Pictures Corporation, California
The Late Show	F 39212	93	22 June	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Lustre Films Inc, California
Fun With Dick And Jane	F 39213	95	22 June	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Bart-Palevsky Productions and MP Film Productions Inc, California
Day Of The Animals	F 39214	98	22 June	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Films Ventures International Inc, Georgia
A Bridge Too Far	F 39215	175	22 June	United Artists Corporation Ltd	Joseph E. Levine Presents Inc, New York
Sinbad and The Eye Of The Tiger	F 39216	113	23 June	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Andor Film Ltd, London
Smokey And The Bandit	F 39217	97	23 June	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Universal Pictures, California
The Family That Dwelt Apart	F 39220	8	23 June	Artificial Eye Film Co Ltd	National Film Board of Canada

AMENDMENT TO THE REGISTER

The registration number of the film 'The Streetwalker', registered on 17 June 1977, has been amended to EC 39208/19/6/82.

Index to statistics published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

(a) annually (m) monthly (q) quarterly

Air transport: trade by air (a)	This week
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Business names and limited partnerships (a)	18 Feb 77
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by regions	18 Feb 77
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Census of production (a)	28 Jan 77
Chemicals industry activity (q)	This week
Companies	
acquisitions and mergers (q)	13 May 77
insolvencies	6 May 77
liquidity (q)	10 Jun 77
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Gt. Britain (m)	24 Jun 77
N. Ireland (q)	24 Jun 77
rate of return on capital (a)	8 Oct 76
structure of company financing	4 Feb 77
Construction work overseas (a)	15 Oct 76
EEC economic indicators *see* Foreign trade	
Energy trends (m)	3 Jun 77
Engineering industries: sales and orders (m)	24 Jun 77
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (m)	17 Jun 77
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exhibitors quota returns (a)	6 May 77
overseas payments and earnings (a)	20 Aug 76
registrations of films (a)	4 Feb 77
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consumption levels (6m)	25 Mar 77
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Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (m)	24 Jun 77
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index numbers (m)	24 Jun 77
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Wales (q)	27 May 77
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Stocks	
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hosiery production (m)	10 Jun 77
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Customs notices of interest to exporters	1 Oct 76
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Guide to departments	15 Apr 77
Release dates of economic statistics	This week
Trade promotions guide	29 Apr 77

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504	514	524	534	544	554	564	574	584	594	604	614	624	634	644	654	664	674	684	694
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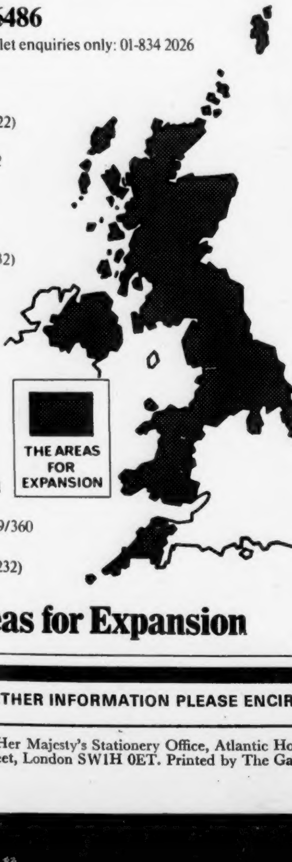

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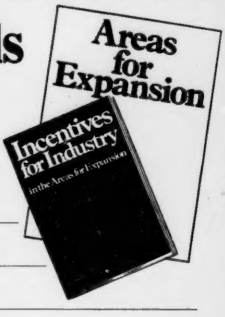

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